Correspondence January 1903 - June 1904
Sarah Orne Jewett and her Circle

by

Sarah Orne Jewett

Edited by Terry Heller

Coe College

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Editorial Practice in Transcriptions

^ ^ : The author has inserted text.

~~abc~~ : The author has deleted text.

[ ] : Editorial comments and descriptions.

{ } : Editorial insertions in pursuit of clarity.

Jewett's periods often appear as dashes, and also often are indistinguishable from commas. Where her intentions seem clear, I have placed commas and periods; when not sure I have given the dashes or included a note.

Like many of her correspondents, Jewett is not consistent in using other punctuation, especially apostrophes. I have presented words needing apostrophes as she and her correspondents present them.

As nearly as practical, these transcriptions mirror the appearance of the manuscripts. However, I cannot guarantee they are free of errors. Readers wishing for certainty when working with these letters should consult the manuscripts.

Internet Access to this Text

The Internet Archive

and

Sarah Orne Jewett Text Project

https://www.sarahornejewett.org/soj/1-jewettpress/index-sojp.html

Sarah Orne Jewett's Principal Correspondents

This list includes people mentioned frequently in this volume. A more fully annotated "Key to Correspondents" appears in a separate volume and on the internet here:

https://www.sarahornejewett.org/soj/let/Corresp/1-persons.html

Most people mentioned in this volume are identified in that list.

Family

Mary Rice Jewett (1847-1930). Jewett's older sister. Occasional nickname: **O.P.**

Sarah Orne Jewett's nicknames in these letters are **Sadie, Pin or Pinny, and P.L, for Pinny Lawson.**

Theodore Jewett Eastman (1879-1831) is mentioned often, the orphaned son of the youngest Jewett sister, Caroline Eastman. Nicknames in these letters are: **Thiddy, Stubby and variations**.

Friends

Thomas Bailey Aldrich: (1836-1907), author and editor of *Atlantic Monthly*. Jewett also wrote often to his wife, **Lilian Woodman Aldrich** (1841-1927).

Marie Thérèse de Solms Blanc (1840-1907), author, editor and translator of American authors, including Jewett. She published as **Th. Bentzon**.

Dr. Robert (Brother Robert) Collyer (1823-1912), an English-born Unitarian clergyman working in New York City. He was a frequent visitor in the homes of both Fields and Jewett.

Louisa (Loulie) Loring Dresel (1864-1958), painter, photographer, traveler, a neighbor of Annie Fields.

Annie Adams Fields: (1834-1915), social worker, author and Jewett's domestic partner. Jewett often refers to her as **A.F. and T.L.** and addresses her with variations on **Fuff and Mouse**.

Louise Imogen Guiney (1861-1920), poet, essayist and editor.

William Dean Howells: (1837-1920), novelist, critic, editor at *Atlantic Monthly*, an early mentor to Jewett.

Sarah de St. Prix Wyman Whitman: (1842-1904), American artist and designer of several Jewett book covers. She appears often in these letters as **S.W.**

Sarah Orne Jewett to Mary Rice Jewett
Fragment

Saturday
[*Winter 1902-3*]*

Dear Mary

It is a gray morning but clearing as if it were not going to snow after all. I feel rather mindless about the weather as I dont want to go out, and rather tired too much after so much going on yesterday. Dr. Jelly* said the same things and warned me again that it was going to take a good while — the only thing I suppose will be to find the place or keep on the place where I feel and make the least friction. I dare say if you dont feel it you arent so apt to make it, but it is a long drag. Part of the time I have been so glad to do nothing for I have been tired enough for years back. The only [things *so transcribed*] is to muster what patience I can and not to think about myself any more than I can help — that's the poison of any life sick or well.

Notes

1902-3: This letter seems likely to have been composed during Jewett's months of confinement after her September 1902 carriage accident.

Dr. Jelly: It seems likely this is George F. Jelly, M.D. a Boston alienist who died in 1911. His son, Arthur C. Jelly followed him into the profession and was a fellow member of the American Medico-Psychological Association. Little more has been discovered about these two men, and it is not certain that either attended on Jewett after her carriage accident.

This text is from transcriptions from mixed repositories in the Maine Women Writer's Collection, University of New England, Letters from Sarah Orne Jewett, 1875-1890, Undated Letters, Folder 75, Burton Trafton Jewett Research Collection.

Sarah Orne Jewett to Annie Adams Fields
Fragment

[*1 January 1903*]*

can! I long to hear about what changes may be made today — perhaps you haven't hit upon the right person — I suppose Mr. Beal* will be making his new year call! I dont think that you need send The Week,* darling. You sent some things for us both, and perhaps you'll let me change that way and write some day in this one of mine that came from London — Or if you have written in that, you shall have this.

Fanny Morse* seems to love the

[*Page 2 — the top of the page has been torn away*]

it and carry it with her and love it too.) I long to know if you have read dear Alice Meynell's paper in the Atlantic = she has changed it in places from her lecture to an Essay — and I cant find just the places where she laughed aloud and all the audience with her — — but what a rich bit of writing it is !! and of such [depth *corrected*] and such inexhaustible charm — (Miss Prestons* is fine and vigorous and splendidly outspoken for her, too, but there is a different scholarship in A.M.'s — an eloquence of the true classics) —

Notes

1903: This manuscript is problematic, for the passage on Alice Meynell's paper in *Atlantic* appears with different material in Jewett to Fields of Saturday Morning, January 1903. For Alice Meynell, Key to Correspondents.

During her 1902 American tour, one of the lectures in Meynell's repertoire was "Dickens as a Man of Letters." See Sarah Orne Jewett to Sara Norton, 20th March 1902. Her essay, "Charles Dickens as a Man of Letters," appeared in *Atlantic* 91 (Jan. 1903): 52-59.

Fields has drawn an X in pencil through the whole first page, corner to corner. Parenthesis marks in this manuscript were penciled by Fields.

Mr. Beal: Probably this is James Henry Beal, husband of Fields's youngest sister, Louisa Jane Adams. See Fields in Key to Correspondents.

The Week: While this is not certain, Jewett may refer to Mary Lodge's *A Week Away from Time* (1887). Annie Fields provided a "Poetical Prelude." See Blanchard, p. 225, for a brief description of the book.

Miss Prestons: In the same issue with Meynell's piece on Dickens appears Harriet Waters Preston, "The Latest Novels of Howells and James," pp. 77-82. Key to Correspondents.

The manuscript of this letter is held by the Houghton Library of Harvard University. Jewett, Sarah Orne, 1849-1909. Annie Fields (Adams) 1834-1915, recipient. 194 letters; 1877-1909 & [n.d.] Sarah Orne Jewett correspondence, 1861-1930. MS Am 1743 (255). Fields included a

selection in *Letters of Sarah Orne Jewett* (1911), p. 185.

Annie Fields transcription

I long to know if you have read dear Alice Meynell's paper in the "Atlantic." She has changed it in places from her lecture to an essay, and I can't find just the places where she laughed aloud and all the audience with her; but what a rich bit of writing it is — and of such depth and such inexhaustible charm!

Sarah Orne Jewett to Annie Adams Fields
Fragment

Saturday morning.

[*January 1903*]*

And now the ball is over, and I suppose a tired hostess, and the chairs all going upstairs again, and the dear room will look like a green garden that no wind ever blows over! I do so long to hear if it went off to your mind, and if the company liked the singing, and where it was you hung the lantern! and oh, dear! a thousand questions!

Yesterday afternoon I amused myself with Miss Austen's "Persuasion."* Dear me, how like her people are to the people we knew years ago! It is just as much New England before the war — that is, in provincial towns — as it ever was Old England. I am going to read another, "Persuasion" tasted so good! I haven't read them for some time.

I long to know if you have read dear Alice Meynell's paper in the "Atlantic."* She has changed it in places from her lecture to an essay, and I can't find just the places where she laughed aloud and all the audience with her; but what a rich bit of writing it is — and of such depth and such inexhaustible charm!

Somebody sent me the other day a pamphlet with an address about Count Rumford,* and, best of all, stuck on a fly-leaf is a cutting from an old newspaper with the list of their household goods, which were sold at auction in Brompton when the countess left London. It mentions *five lofty, four-post beds*, which pleases me much. This was a kind of man who had seen in a newspaper that I was going to write about the Rumfords, and I thank him very much for his pamphlet!

Notes

1903: See Jewett to Fields of 1 January 1903.

Miss Austen's "Persuasion": Jane Austen (1775-1817), *Persuasion* (1818).

paper in the "Atlantic": See notes for Jewett to Fields of 1 January 1903.

Count Rumford: Jewett was working on a "paper" on the Sarah Thompson, Countess of Rumford as early as 1890; see Sarah Orne Jewett to Louisa Dresel, November 28, [1890]. Richard Cary, in notes for that letter, says: "Among Jewett's papers in the Houghton Library is an unfinished holograph manuscript of some twenty-five odd sheets, the ink and handwriting testifying that they were written at different intervals, with plethoric alterations, entitled 'The Countess of Rumford.' There is no evidence of a fair copy or of publication."

Jewett became interested in Benjamin Thompson, Count Rumford (1753-1814) in part because his widow, Sarah, lived the end of her life in nearby Concord, New Hampshire; she was a cousin to Jewett's Aunt Lucretia. Though Jewett apparently did not publish her work, the Countess may have influenced Jewett's characterizations of eccentric aristocratic women such as Lady Ferry and Miss Chauncey (in *Deephaven*). See Paula Blanchard, pp. 344-5.

It is not yet known in what newspaper Jewett's acquaintance learned she was going to write about the Rumfords, nor has the pamphlet she received been identified.

This letter appears in Annie Fields, *Letters of Sarah Orne Jewett* (1911).

Sarah Orne Jewett to Lilian Woodman Aldrich

Monday morning
January 5th [*1903*]*
[*Begin letterhead*]
South Berwick.
Maine.
[*End letterhead*]

Dear Lilian

My sister Mary wrote many of my Christmas notes for me but I wish to write you myself and I am sorry that so many days have gone by. I thanked you so much for your dear note and for the beautiful little pin — Theodore looked at it with such admiring eyes that I had to say he

[*Page 2*]

might wear it until his aunt could make a proper show of it in something better than a Kimono! (He is such a careful person, Theodore! and with a great sense of what is exactly smart). I think that the company of that pin in his cravat lent a glory to this Christmas vacation beyond others, and he

was so nice and companionable — I do want you to see him again as a grown person!

--- But dear Lilian you

[*Page 3*]

were so kind to think of me ^in^ that hurrying and anxious time before Christmas. How many [Christmas *so spelled*] we have kept together! — For twenty years I have not missed spending part of the day at 148, and for a long time in the autumn I clung to the hope that I should still get to town by that time but my broken head* seems to mend very slowly and I still have attacks of pain when the back of my neck feels as if it were hurt only

[*Page 4*]

a day or two ago — and I can really do very little though I get down stairs for the afternoons and often a [good piece *?*] of the evening. You cant think how happy it makes me to think of Miss Vauchel's* being with our dear A.F. and she writes so happily and in such a different tone. I really feel better myself for I could not help worrying; she felt very lonely and was so eager to be free from the other arrangement.

I wish that I could know how you found Charley* — and if you went for your dear old New Year week to New York you and T.B. together — But I shall

[*Up the left margin and then across the top margin of page 1*]

be hearing of you, I hope through A.F. With love and thanks I am ever yours and T.B.'s affectionate "Sadie."

Tell T.B. to keep strong [there *?*] up at 4 Park St.* about his new book

[*Up the left margin of page 2 and then across the top margins of pages 2 & 3*]

I think that "The House" print and bind well but they dont publish like MacMillan & McClure{.} They dropped The Tory Lover* when they ought to have kept it best before the public and they either need new salesmen or something I dont say what!

Notes

1903: Jewett composed this letter in the winter after her September 1902 nearly fatal carriage accident.

broken head: Jewett suffered severe head and neck injuries in a carriage accident on her birthday, 3 September 1902.

Vauchel's: Miss Vauchel may be Lucy Voshell. According to Paula Blanchard, Fields had a minor stroke in the fall of 1902 and continued unwell through much of the winter 1902-3 (pp. 349-50) See Gardner to Jewett of 25 October 1902.

During an illness a few years later (1906-7), Fields's friend, Julia Ward Howe, was attended by Lucy Voshell: "This nurse was known to others as Lucy Voshell, but her patient promptly named her 'Wollapuk.' She was as merry as she was skillful, and the two made much fun together. Even when the patient could not speak, she could twinkle. As strength gradually returned, the ministrations of Wollapuk became positively scenes of revelry; and the anxious guardian below, warding off would-be interviewers or suppliants, might be embarrassed to hear peals of laughter ringing down the stair." The Thomas Bailey Aldrich collection at the University of Virginia, includes letters from Lilian Woodman (Mrs. Thomas Bailey) Aldrich to Lucy Voshell regarding Aldrich's twin sons. That Lucy Voshell nursed two close friends of Fields suggests that she may have cared for Fields as well.

Charley: The Aldriches' twin sons, Talbot and Charles were born in 1868. Charles was diagnosed with tuberculosis in 1902, and he died two years later in March 1904.

4 Park St.: Location of the offices of Houghton Mifflin. Jewett goes on to complain about "The House," or Houghton Mifflin, for deficiencies in marketing, particularly of her final novel, *The Tory Lover* (1901). Houghton turned her novel over the Grosset and Dunlap soon after publishing it in 1901. That edition includes the corrections she requested in a 22 November 1901 letter to Francis Jackson Garrison.

Jewett may refer to *Ponkapog Papers* (1904) as Aldrich's new book, about which he may have been negotiating with Houghton Mifflin. Or, perhaps she speaks of his most recent title, *A Sea Turn and Other Matters* (1902), if the issue is marketing.

The manuscript of this letter is held by the Houghton Library, Harvard University, Cambridge, Mass. Thomas Bailey Aldrich Papers, 119 letters of Thomas Bailey and Lilian Woodman Aldrich, 1837-1926. MS Am 1429 (117).

Alice Meynell to Annie Adams Fields

[*Begin letterhead*]
47,
PALACE COURT,
W.
[*End letterhead*]

January 5.
[*1903*]*

My very dear Friend

The year will not be very old when these good wishes of mine reach you. May the year be happy for you, and may you be well and full of blefsings.

[*Page 2*]

It was dear, indeed, and like you, to send me your book.* I have already read the whole — it is so delightful. I had a specific interest in the chapter on Mrs. Beecher Stowe,* not because I

[*Page 3*]

I admire her writings very much, but because I do [*unrecognized word* sense *?*] her character. I think I did not tell you that in the summer I had the great pleasure of making Mrs. Whitman's* acquaintance; a great and real pleasure this was to me. I am sorry not to have seen her again. I called

[*Page 4*]

when she had left her hotel only a few hours.

All goes well here. My eldest daughter's* marriage will not take place for some time; meanwhile the society of my future son in law is a great delight. Amongst other good things, he is a fine musician.

I should love to be remembered to

[*In the top margin of page 1*]

anyone who will accept [and *?*] my very kind regards, especially to Mrs. Bull and Mrs. Howe.* To my dear Mifs Jewett I send my love.

Ever, my own friend, your [attached *?*]

Alice Meynell

Notes

1903: This date is supported by the date of the marriage of Meynell's eldest daughter. See notes below.

book: Fields seems to have sent Meynell a copy of *Authors and Friends* (1896).

Beecher Stowe: Harriet Beecher Stowe. Key to Correspondents.

Mrs. Whitman: Sarah Wyman Whitman. Key to Correspondents.

eldest daughter's: Meynell's eldest daughter, Monica (1880-1929), married English physician, author and eugenics supporter, Caleb William Saleeby (1878-1940) in June 1903.

Mrs. Bull and Mrs. Howe: Though the transcription of "Bull" is uncertain — it could be "Bell" — probably Meynell refers to Sara Chapman Thorp Bull. Likewise, Meynell could refer to any of several of Fields's friends named "Mrs. Howe," but probably she means Julia Ward Howe. Key to Correspondents.

The manuscript of this letter is held by the Huntington Library, San Marino, CA, in the James T. Fields Papers and Addenda Box 47: mss FI 3321, Folder 1. Archivist notations on this letter have not been transcribed.

Sarah Orne Jewett to Albert Bigelow Paine

January 9th
[*1903*]*
[*Begin letterhead*]
South Berwick, Maine
[*End letterhead*]

My dear Mr. Paine

The story you ask about — A Bit of Colour* was afterward made longer and printed by messrs. Houghton Mifflin & Co. under the new title of Betty Leicester. I am afraid that another note of yours asking me about it has never been answered — I remember it ---- but I had a bad carriage accident in early September from which I am

[*Page 2*]

just recovering — Pray forgive such an un-meant discourtesy! — and believe me

Yours sincerely
S. O. Jewett

Perhaps there may be some question about Betty Leicester's Christmas, but that has been republished too! There are some stories in other juvenile magazines which might serve. The D. Lothrop Co.* reprinted some without my permission, unfortunately!

Notes

1903: This year is implied in Jewett's reference to her recent carriage accident, which took place on 3 September 1902.

The specific project about which Paine inquires is not yet known.

In another hand beneath Jewett's signature on page 2 appears this parenthetical note: (Sarah Orne Jewett).

Bit of Colour: Jewett's story "A Bit of Color," appeared serially in *St. Nicholas*, April through June of 1889. *Betty Leicester. A Story for Girls* appeared in 1890; *Betty Leicester's English Xmas: A New Chapter of an Old Story* was privately printed in 1894, reprinted as a *St. Nicholas* serial in December 1895 through February 1896, and slightly revised for reprinting as a book by Houghton, Mifflin in 1899.

D. Lothrop Co.: Daniel Lothrop (1831-1892) was the originator of *Wide Awake,* a magazine for young readers, in which Jewett work appeared. A publisher of other juvenile magazines as well, Lothrop regularly issued books that collected selections from the magazines. Two Jewett pieces currently are known to have appeared in such books, "Town Clerks" (1885) and her narrative poem, "York Garrison, 1640" (1886).

The manuscript of this letter is held by the Huntington Library, San Marino, CA, in the Albert Bigelow Paine letters, 1875-1934, AP 887.

Elizabeth Cabot Cary Agassiz to Sarah Orne Jewett

Jan 10th 1903

[*Begin letterhead*]
Quincy Street.
Cambridge.
[*End letterhead*]

My dear dear Sarah

I send you my love and with it the best blessing of the Xmas and the New Year. I received your telegram on that beautiful day of my life which [crowned *?*] me eighty* and found me so surrounded by children & grand-children and so enfolded

[*Page 2*]

in the sympathy and kindness of friends and neighbors, that the whole experience still seems to me like a beautiful dream.

The day was ^made^ all the more dazzling by the fairy gift from Radcliffe which was dropped into my hand so unexpectedly as if from a source unseen, unknown. That is the way fairy gifts come you know!

You can imagine the happiness of the students

[*Page 3*]

and my own in having this cherished plan of a "Students Hall"* — fulfilled — It will ^make^ an immense difference in the social and domestic life at Radcliffe for which we have never been able to provide suitably ----

Good-bye, — you must not answer this because I know you ^are^ to be careful.

Good-bye — in the old & beautiful sense of God bless you ---

Your loving friend
Elizabeth C. Agassiz

Notes

eighty: Agassiz turned 80 on 5 December 1902.

hall: The Elizabeth Cary Agassiz House at Radcliffe College, Cambridge MA, was completed in 1904.

The manuscript of this letter is held by the Houghton Library of Harvard University: Sarah Orne Jewett Correspondence I, Letters to Sarah Orne Jewett. bMS Am 1743 (2). This transcription is from a photocopy held by the Maine Women Writer's Collection, University of New England, Box 2, Folder 99, Burton Trafton Jewett Research Collection.

Robert Collyer to Annie Adams Fields and Sarah Orne Jewett

[*Begin letterhead*]
201 West 55th Street
New York
[*End letterhead*]

Jan 10th 1903

Dear My Lassies

I will send along stories of the Craven Dales* in which you may find some amusement for spare moments.* These books can stay put until we foregather DV* in the summer on the Hill* or I come to Berwick or whatever seems easiest. I am glad Sister Sarah is amending slowly it seems who may hasten by and bye so I hope and trust { — } so do we all.

I am better of my cold and cough and have sworn off — pills, sleep well o' nights and this morning enjoyed two lengths of [Deerfat farm *?*] Sausage* "thems the jockies for me" as the guest

exclaimed from whose mouth Coleridge* expected Chunks of Wisdom. They are our Saturdays delicatessen { — } when I see that word in a store window I want to go in and buy things. What lovely bits — pictures — there are in the paper I sent on for New Years{!}

With more good wishes your always
Robert Collyer

Notes

Craven Dales: Probably, Collyer has sent a copy of *Chronicles and Stories of the Craven Dales* (1881) by James Henry Dixon (1803-1876).

moments: Collyer often omits periods in this letter. I have supplied them where they seem necessary.

DV: Latin: Deo volente, God willing.

Hill: Fields's summer home in Manchester, MA, stands on Thunderbolt Hill.

Sausage: The transcription of "Deerfat farm" is uncertain, and so it is not clear exactly what sort of sausage Collyer so enjoys.

Coleridge: British author, Samuel Taylor Coleridge (1772-1834).

Thomas Wentworth Higginson repeats this anecdote in *Book and Heart: Essays on Literature and Life*, p. 218.

The manuscript of this letter is held by the Huntington Library, San Marino, CA, in the James T. Fields Papers and Addenda Box 10: mss Fl 1-5637.

Sarah Orne Jewett to Reuben H. Hilton*

[*Begin letterhead*]
South Berwick Maine
[*End letterhead*]
January 15th 1903

To
Reuben H. Hilton Esqre,

My dear Sir

I am very sorry that your first letter should have been unanswered, but I had a very bad accident in being thrown from a carriage several months ago, and I still find it difficult to attend to letters that come.

I am glad to do what you ask and I hope that it will not matter too much that my answer comes so late.*

Yours sincerely
Sarah O. Jewett

Notes

Hilton: Though there are records on-line of at least two Reuben H. Hiltons living in the United States in 1903, the identity of this person has not been confirmed.

In light pencil, in another hand, this note appears on the back of the page: "SARAH ORNE JEWETT 1849-1909 Amer Story writer. Short stories of New Eng. life".

The manuscript of this letter is held by Colby College Special Collections, Waterville, ME: JEWE.1. Scott Frederick Stoddart's transcription appears in his Ph.D. dissertation at the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign: *Selected Letters of Sarah Orne Jewett*. New transcription and notes.

Annie Adams Fields to Robert Underwood Johnson

148 Charles Street
Jany 24th

[*1903*]*

My dear Mr. Johnson:

I am glad you like the little paper about Madame Blanc. The photograph in the possession of Mr. Aldrich is indeed the true thing to copy because it is ^from^ an early picture of her by the great Regnault.* The trouble is that I fear you can not get it — Mr. Aldrich is in the Adirondacks and is not likely to know how to tell anybody else to find it — but of course

[*Page 2*]

we may always try!

As for sending the paper to her, pray do as you like, but in spite of the facts all being either in print or taken from her lips I presume she will alter and interline until you will be quite distracted! However the matter is in your hands. Pray do as you like and transfer the sentences as you wish{.}

With kindest regards to your wife from Mifs Jewett and me

believe me most truly yours
Annie Fields

Notes

1903: This date is supported by the publication that year of Fields's article on Madame Marie Thérèse de Solms Blanc. Fields's "Notable Women: Mme. Blanc" appeared in *Century Magazine* in May 1903, pp. 134-9.

Regnault: French painter, Henri Regnault (1843-1871). Biographers report that one of the last works of his life was a pencil sketch of Madame Blanc in about 1870-1. The portrait of Blanc that appears on page 136 of Fields's article is the same as the one that appears in her Wikipedia entry. In *Century* it is said to be from a photograph by François Touranchet.

The manuscript of this letter is held by The New York Public Library, Archives & Manuscripts, Century Company records 1870-1930s, Series I. General Correspondence 1870-1930, b. 33, Fields, Annie 1886-1912.

Sarah Wyman Whitman to Sarah Orne Jewett

[*28 January 1903*]*

Darling, I saw A.F. for a dear visit this afternoon, & she was quite naughty and gay, and made me feel she would be driving out some day very soon now. — Yet I was then seized with such a homesick wish to see you, and to have ^you^ in the familiar places, & on the River's Edge that I fell to wondering if my wish is not prophetic, & if the time is not nearly right for you to leave bucolic skies, & tread the "academy."* & how I hope and wish for it, and am practicing daily virtue so as to [dress in *?*] Robust* [fashion *?*], fit to protect: or better "to warm & comfort & command." —

[*Page 2*]

I am a little incited to this proud language by having received a letter from Madame Blanc, calling upon me for a fertile histoire de ma vie, for photographs, for encomiums. O alas! for the dust & ashes she really indicates. But her letter was consoling, & I am now endeavoring to write a romantic career in art, & call it <u>mine</u>.

I must tell you apropos to this writing, that my writing [*unrecognized word*] is the one most difficult to [recover *?*] in all this curious illness. My Xmas letters are not yet written — nor stacks of others: & when I look at the directed envelopes, I feel a sort of terror at the thought of the replies they indicate — So you

[*Page 3*]

see I am still a miserable creature: yet greatly better in some substantial ways. ----

There are, I will add, 100.000 things I wish to discourse with you about — & so goodnight. Love to dear Mary, & salutation to the large landscape of Berks & its [*unrecognized word*, environment *?*].

Thine, dearest friend,

<u>Sw</u>

January 28. 1903 ----------

Notes

28 January 1903: The envelope associated with this letter was cancelled on 29 January 1903 and addressed to Jewett in South Berwick.

academy: At the time of this letter, Jewett continued confined to her home in South Berwick after her serious carriage accident the previous September. "The River's Edge," probably refers to Annie Fields's Boston home, which backed onto the Charles River. Having agreed to create a memorial window for Bowdoin College, Whitman hoped to visit the college soon in Jewett's company.

Robust: Whitman has written "Robust" in extra large letters. The transcription of this sentence is uncertain.

The manuscript of this letter is held by the Houghton Library of Harvard University. Whitman, Sarah (Wyman) 1842-1904. 92 letters; [1884]-[1903] & [n.d.] Jewett, Sarah Orne, 1849-1909. Sarah Orne Jewett additional correspondence, 1868-1930. MS Am 1743.1 -107.

Louise Imogen Guiney to Annie Adams Fields

[*28 January 1903*]

Dearest Mrs. Fields:

This is but a brief word to tell you my relief, after the long heart-corroding suspense, in hearing that you are gaining strength. You have no idea how I have been fighting with the grief of knowing you were so ill, and of knowing Miss Jewett was ill too. I did not write you, because I was a bit panic-struck at the sudden narrowing of my own wide noiseless world; and one never likes to utter anything until panic has abated. Last October, I lost my very dear contemporary and friend Lionel Johnson;* and I felt to the quick the wretched tragic way in which he died: such a fate for the whitest soul I ever knew among poets! (You may have seen, or heard of, an all inadequate <u>Atlantic</u> paper* in which I tried to give some sort of mental portrait of him.) Then,

[*Page 2*]

in that same stormy month, my poor Aunty's* mind began to fail, and grew rapidly worse after my Mother joined us here. It was all heart-breaking. She seemed to keep well, physically. Suddenly,

she had a paralytic stroke; lay nine days without pain, clear-thoughted, at peace, almost cheerful as ever at any time; and then, just after Christmas, she died. Like me (we always had shared most notions of the art of living and dying) she wished to be buried near, not carried home. And so it was done. There was Bright's disease,* often beaten back by a strong constitution, ^but^ chronic and invincible, for the last five years. I do not know how events could have been more mercifully disposed. But I miss her. All my life she was all love to me. I am glad to be in England, to

[*Page 3*]

fight my fight alone. — But I must not fill up with repinings, and melancholy subjects, what I meant to be a congratulatory greeting to my two dear friends. I keep ever on our little drawing-room mantel, in a pretty old daguerreotype frame, the lovely profile of you, done years ago, which Dr. Parsons* (I think) rewarded me with before I knew you; and I hope the loving looks which it gets go toward heartening you, over seas, and charming all your old energies back into your hands. My mother is ever so well ^and thinks of you tenderly;^ and the winter is most mild. I ^am wearing no black, and^ have gone back to the Bodleian* to work. Ever affectionately your,

Louise I. Guiney.

28 Jan., 1903.
57 S. John's Road, Oxford.

Notes

Johnson: Lionel Johnson (1867-1902), British poet, essayist and critic. Wikipedia says: "Johnson lived a solitary life in London, struggling with alcoholism and repressed homosexuality. He died of a stroke in 1902, after either a fall in the street, or a fall from a barstool in the Green Dragon on Fleet Street."

Atlantic paper: Guiney's essay on Johnson appeared in December 1902 and was reprinted as the introduction to *Some Poems of Lionel Johnson. Newly Selected* (1912).

Aunty's: A sister to Guiney's mother was Elizabeth Doyle.

Bright's disease: Former name for kidney disease.

Dr. Parsons: Thomas William Parsons (1819-1892), American dentist and poet. He translated portions of Dante's *Divine Comedy*.

Bodleian: The Bodleian Library is the main research library of Oxford University.

The manuscript of this letter is held by the Huntington Library, San Marino, CA, in the James T. Fields collection Box 26: mss FI 1635 .

Sarah Wyman Whitman to Sarah Orne Jewett

[*6 February 1903*]*

I send this little note along, darling, because its so good & comforting: tho' we can imagine alas just how hard [dear *?*] old Coolidge finds that colossal leg! First Coolidge and then Plaster must make truly the longest leg* in the modern world.

But its so much to have it over & the prospect fair and Lily* there. ----

I have had a day of successive events: none of them of my own election: & I am just wondering if it must be always thus. I contemplate a little innocent, personal S T R I K E !

So watch the Evening Transcript.*

sw

Notes

6 February 1903: The envelope associated with this letter was cancelled on 6 February 1903 and addressed to Jewett in South Berwick.

leg: Coolidge was Sarah Chauncey Woolsey. Key to Correspondents. The transcription of this passage is uncertain, and Whitman's references mysterious. Perhaps Woolsey has had surgery.

Lily: Whether Whitman refers to a person is not clear. In other letters, Whitman mentions Lily Hoppin. Key to Correspondents.

Evening Transcript: A Boston newspaper.

The manuscript of this letter is held by the Houghton Library of Harvard University. Whitman, Sarah (Wyman) 1842-1904. 92 letters; [1884]-[1903] & [n.d.] Jewett, Sarah Orne, 1849-1909. Sarah Orne Jewett additional correspondence, 1868-1930. MS Am 1743.1 -107.

Transcription from *Letters of Sarah Wyman Whitman* (1907)

Part of this letter appeared on p. 109.

February 6, 1903.

I have had a day of successive events, none of them of my own election; and I am just wondering if it must be always thus. I contemplate a little innocent personal strike! So watch the "Evening Transcript."

Sarah Orne Jewett to Annie Adams Fields

Friday morning
[*Winter 1903*]

Dearest Annie

First I must tell a great tale of experience! When I was coming up to bed last night at half past seven (* "dark under the table!" I stopped out in the hall where the box is, and put my fingers in to get two pieces of that oat-cake. And they seemed to be a new shape and Bigger — And they were cookies!! — Oh it made a great party; Mary had to come up the stairs to have some handed to her and Timmy* came galloping from somewhere — and when he was told that he couldn't have any, said nothing but some minutes afterward I looked behind me as I was undressing, and there

[*Page 2*]

sat Timmy waiting and looking with his little keen head as sharp as a bird's! So Timmy got a whole half of a cooky, for his deep appreciation! It made a great evening !! [but *corrected*] when I began to eat mine I felt a little homesick and they had to be just as good as they were to console my heart. I had been reading The Singing Shepherd* book in the parlour late in the afternoon, and I am always thinking a great deal about you and the dear house. I wish over and over again that I could come (— it is so hard too to say no when you want anything! but I should be sure to be so tired for two or three days after the

[*Page 3*]

little journey, and you might think it was worse than it is and worry and then you would be 'all tired out{'} and that would worry me anew — oh no dear, we had better wait a little while longer — I dont quite dare to try going out yet, and I begin to feel like it once in a while too, which I hadn't for a long time before. I get up at about noon, and sometimes I stay down stairs until after tea & into the evening, and sometimes I come up here and lie on the couch & go down to tea again. I think this is the best way. I walk about now and then and go to stand in the doorway to get a

[*Page 4*]

good sniff of the snowy air. I wish you had these easy stairs to get up and down. I am afraid that I shall boast of them more than usual — but whether it was because I learned to go upstairs and down on them in infancy or not they always seem as if you came up without feeling half so much weight of yourself — (I quite long to know how Mrs. Cabot* is. I haven't heard a word for a longer time than normal and I am always afraid that she has got cold.

— Tell me all the little news about you, dear — that's what I am always wanting to know! Give my love to the girls ^Cassie & Mrs [*unrecognized name*]^* and tell them about [*one unrecognized word written over another*] cookies — it was so funny.

Your most loving
P. L.)

[*Up the left margin and partly across the top margin of p. 1*]

Mary just heard about Tosy and the cookies — and said "of course he waited; his aunt Annie sent those cookies for him!

Notes

Winter 1903: Fields penciled "1902" in the upper right of page 1, and this may be correct, but because Jewett clearly is still recovering from her September1902 carriage accident and says nothing about holidays, it seems more likely that this letter is from early1903.

Parenthesis marks in this manuscript also were penciled by Fields. Fields also has deleted "Annie" in the greeting.

seven (: Jewett may have written this parenthesis mark, as it appears to be in ink. However, there is no corresponding end parenthesis.

Timmy: A Jewett family dog. Later she refers to him as Tosy.

Singing Shepherd: Annie Fields's *The Singing Shepherd* (1895).

Mrs. Cabot: Susan Burley Cabot. Key to Correspondents.

Cassie: Presumably a Fields employee, probably a cook, as suggested in a letter to Carrie Jewett Eastman of 8 September 1895. No further identification has been found.

The manuscript of this letter is held by the Houghton Library of Harvard University. Jewett, Sarah Orne, 1849-1909. Annie Fields (Adams) 1834-1915, recipient. 194 letters; 1877-1909 & [n.d.] Sarah Orne Jewett correspondence, 1861-1930. MS Am 1743 (255).

Frances Rollins Morse to Sarah Orne Jewett FRM

2 Marlborough.
Feb. 13th 1903.

Dearest Sarah

I have thought of you so often today, that I am sure you must have given me a thought, too.

Wireless telegraphy* is one of the incredible things that are really very credible, don't you think so? for we are all conscious of its more or less imperfect working in daily life.

[*Page 2*]

I went down the Harbor this morning to my dear Long Island, and the little voyage is one of the great delights of my life.

Today it was all a little hazy, with uncertain instances, gradually clearing as we went. There were more vessels than I have ever seen there, all either coal-laden, or having just landed their coal — The great T-masted J. W. Lawson Schooner* was there, & twelve big schooners, all in the upper harbor while below were

[*Page 3*]

lying the coal-~~schoon~~ steamers — coming in — They always have the air of the practical man of business, as compared with more sensitive artist's sailing vessels — & they have the same feeling of superiority — they don't mind winds or calms or weather generally, but go straight about their business, while the sailing vessel has moods & is emotional, & at times can't work —

It always touches me

[*Page 4*]

to see the women's names on ships — I don't know anything that would make one feel more truly honored than to have one's name on the stern of a boat (and now I think of it I should like to go straight down to our dear Essex ship-yard, and have a beautiful ship built, & have her named The Sarah Orne Jewett —)

I looked at a nice smutty little tug today, bearing the name of Ida M. Chase — While a big schooner was the Eleanor Harvey of Bath — a shabby iron-plated steamer with the Union Jack at the masthead was the Warrior from Whitby.

[*Up the left margin of page 1*]

Goodnight, dear Sarah — Esther* would send you so much love, but she is — I hope — asleep

Your loving

Notes

wireless telegraphy: Wireless telegraphy via radio became known in about 1895, but was not very practical for communication until about 1910.

*J. W. Lawson Schooner ... Ida M. Chase ... Eleanor Harvey of Bath ... Warrior from Whitb*y: I have located no more information about these ocean vessels.

Esther: Esther has not yet been identified.

The manuscript of this letter is held by the Houghton Library of Harvard University: Sarah Orne Jewett Correspondence I, Letters to Sarah Orne Jewett. Morse, Frances Rollins, 1850-1928. 3 letters, bMS Am 1743 (157). This transcription is from a photocopy held by the Maine Women Writer's Collection, University of New England, Letters from Sarah Orne Jewett, 1875-1890, Box 2, Folder 97, Burton Trafton Jewett Research Collection.

Robert Collyer to Annie Adams Fields

[*Begin letterhead*]
201 West 55th Street
New York
[*End letterhead*]
St Valentines day at noon
[*14 February 1903*]

Dear Friend

Someone sent me "A week in a french country house"* about New Years.* There was no script to tell me who but about midway in the volume the book was a ruin and I want to take it down to the MacMillans and get a sound one { — } can you cast a ray of light on the sender by a stroke of that pencil if no more{?} I am thinking of you as [*ink mark*] almost well again. Mary* said some while ago you were better. I trust you have not gone back on this glint of light. I am quite well now{,} only cough o' mornings to clear the pipes.

Do you see the [Edinburg *so written*] Review{?} The new number contains the best review of Henry James* his books and genius I have ever seen and the most luminous. If you are up to reading a large paper you will like this { — } it is written in an admirable [spirit *blotted and deleted*] spirit but I had to leave off in the club before the section was read of his last things which may not be so favorable.

[*Page 2*]

Still I am sure it will be good. I had to rush home for my dinner. Gertrude* God bless her is a minute woman { — } she accept{s} the axiom that punctuality is the soul of meal times.

In love always yours
Robert Collyer

Notes

years: Collyer omits many periods in this letter. I have supplied them wherever they seem necessary.

country house: Adelaide Kemble Sartoris (1815-1879) was an English opera singer, the younger sister of Fanny Kemble, actress and anti-slavery activist. She wrote *A Week in a French Country House* (1867).

Mary: While this is not certain, it is likely this is Mary Rice Jewett.

Henry James: American author Henry James (1843-1916) published two books in 1900 and 1901, *A Little Tour of France* (1900) and *The Sacred Fount* (1901).

Collyer refers to "James's Achievement" in the *Edinburgh Review* 197 (January 1903), pp. 59-85.

Gertrude: Collyer's daughter-in-law. See Collyer in Key to Correspondents.

The manuscript of this letter is held by the Huntington Library, San Marino, CA, in the James T. Fields Papers and Addenda Box 10: mss FI 1-5637.

Marie Thérèse de Solms Blanc to Sarah Orne Jewett

This message appears on a Russian picture postcard. The text encircles a photo of Sevastopol harbor in Crimea, which fills about 1/3 of the space on the message side of the postcard.

[*19 February 1903*]*

My dear, I don't want the terrible news to arrive at your house without adding a few words that you could communicate to Annie. I have lost my adoptive daughter, a dear younger sister, on whom it seemed I could lean until my dying day. It was all over in a week. Gabrielle Delzant* is no more.

She was always concerned about your health, and she remembered you so fondly!

I will leave Paris for a few days. I can't bear to hear her talked of. Her husband is taking her body to Parays.

I embrace you with redoubled tenderness.

ThB.

[*On the front, address side of the card, someone — probably Jewett — has written the following in English. Presumably, Jewett then included this card in a letter to Field*s.]

Oh what a loss this is, and what a sorrow to poor Thérèse who loved her so much! I was just sending off your letter when this came.

Notes

1903: This note was sent on a postcard addressed to Jewett in South Berwick. It was cancelled in Paris on 19 February 1903 and in South Berwick. The date stamp for South Berwick is less clear, but it may indicate a 9 March 1903 arrival.

Gabrielle Delzant: Alidor (1848-1905) and Gabrielle Delzant (1854-1903) resided in Paris and at Parays (Lot-et-Garonne). He was a lawyer, a bibliophile, editor, and author and wrote, among other works, a biography of the brothers Goncourt.

Richard Cary notes that Gabrielle was cited by Violet Paget for the "admirableness of her brains" and her "extraordinary charm of high breeding." Madame Delzant, an aspiring author, compiled extensive memoranda and rough drafts of books on Port Royal and the Princesse de Liancourt but did not live to publish them. Her husband edited *Lettres de Gabrielle Delzant* (1906), for which Mme. Blanc wrote a preface.

See also "Paget in Parays" (1960) by Archille H. Biron.

The manuscript of this letter is held by the Huntington Library, San Marino, CA, in the James T. Fields Papers and Addenda mss FI 1-5637, Box 5.

Transcription

Chérie, Je ne veux pas que le terrible billet vous arrive sans un mot que vous communiquerez à Annie. Je perds ma fille d'adoption, une jeune soeur chérie, sur laquelle il semblait que je pusse m'appuyer jusqu'à mon dernier jour; en une semaine tout a été fini. Gabrielle Delzant n'est plus. ---

Elle était se occupée de votre santé, elle gardait de vous si bon souvenir!

Je vais quitter Paris [pr q.q. for pour quelques] jours. Je ne peux supporter d'entendre sans cesse parler d'elle. Son mari emporte le corps à Parays.

Je vous embrasse avec un redoublement de tendresse

ThB.

Marie Thérèse de Solms Blanc to Annie Adams Fields

Meudon, Tuesday

[*24 February 1903*]*

Most dear Annie,

I won't speak of my pain at the loss of the friend who, for thirty years of unblemished friendship, gave me every sign of growing affection. The love that binds you and Sarah means that you, better probably than anyone else, can understand the cruelty of my loss.

[*Page 2*]

I had hoped that Gabrielle,* being much younger than I, would care for me in my last days and would close my eyes. God took her back; the terrible embolism extinguished her in one night, in the moment when we thought she had turned toward recovery. I cannot bear to listen to all of our dear friends ceaselessly talking over this horrible event, — and suffering even more

[*Page 3*]

from the lukewarm condolences the world sends along to you (which one finds so exaggerated in their feelings). I have locked myself away alone here in Meudon, where I live with my memories. I try to remember your courage, your self-forgetfulness at La Ferté, when you learned of your sister's death.* But I lack your fortitude, and then I believe that some sorrows of the heart

[*Page 4*]

can be deeper even than many family bereavements. The passing of my own brother, at almost this time a year ago, did not create the void in my life that I feel today. After two months of illness, I remain weak in every way, and it seems as if my world is disappearing, but that is wrong, for I still have perfect friends, I still have the two of you, inseparable, to whom my thoughts reach out. In my room at Meudon, almost as austere as a Carmelite cell, but which opens out upon the already spring-like horizon

[*Page 5*]

of this world [*unrecognized words*]. M. Delzant has fled to Italy with his children, where they are guests of Vernon Lee,* who is perhaps more afflicted than everyone else together. She adored Gabrielle, who knew how to cultivate empathy in an intellectual spirit. In her last letter to me, she says "Take me to America. I need to renew myself, to rekindle myself." And I replied from the depth of my own sorrow: "Yes, we will go." I tell you this to show in what direction our two broken hearts are turning

[*Page 6*]

from the valley of the Loire. I have read your lovely article about my patron saint.* I am so grateful to you for making this grand person as interesting to Protestants as she is to Catholics, for her virtues transcend all differences in dogma.

———

St. Theresa, with her natural genius, was of course one of the theological "doctors" of our church, but she belongs, apart from her mysticism,

[*Page 7*]

to all Christians, to all humanity. [*Unrecognized words*] and you have done it admirably, with the great power of empathy you possess.

One of the last things Gabrielle told me was that she wanted to write to you; she always wanted to hear the news about both of you. During her terrible hemorrhage, when she bled from the phlebitis caused by an undetected [clot *or* tumor *?*], she told me: “Here I am, like Seneca.* Well, this is as it should be,

[*Page 8*]

as long as it conforms fully with God's will.” She surrendered her life with a smile, and left us an example disheartening in its perfection, but which still will make each of us a little better. Never has one seen such unanimity in grief. A force for good disappears,

[*Cross-written up the right side of page 5*]

one that twice over has lifted me above myself. May God bless her, God bless you, too.

Th B

[*Cross-written down the left side of page 5. We find this part mostly unreadable. We have translated the words we can make out.*]

spontaneously

for. — America is you, it's Sarah, it's the strong influence that

Notes

1903: Huntington Library archivists have assigned this date, which almost certainly is correct. Blanc reported the death of Gabrielle Delzant (1854-1903) in a postcard to Sarah Orne Jewett of 19 February 1903. If this date is correct, Blanc would have composed this letter about that death the following Tuesday.

Gabrielle: Gabrielle Delzant (1854-1903). See Blanc to Jewett of 19 February 1903.

sister's death: While visiting at Mme. Blanc's home in 1898, Fields learned of the death in Rhode Island of her older sister, the painter, Elizabeth Adams.

Vernon Lee: Pen name of British author, Violet Paget. Key to Correspondents.

patron saint: Fields's "Saint Theresa" appeared in *Atlantic Monthly* (March 1903) pp. 353-63.

Teresa of Ávila (1515-1582) was a Spanish noblewoman who entered a Carmelite convent, a mystic, theologian, and religious reformer.

Seneca: The Roman Stoic philosopher and author, Lucius Annaeus Seneca the Younger (c. 4 BC - 65 CE). He is remembered in part for his calmness in the face of death, when forced to commit suicide during the reign of Nero. Translator Professor Jeannine Hammond points out that Delzant's quotation rhymes, suggesting that she was repeating something she had read or heard.

The manuscript of this letter is held by the Huntington Library, San Marino, CA, in the James T. Fields Papers and Addenda mss FI 1-5637, Box 5.

Transcription

Meudon, Mardi

Bien chère Annie,

Je ne vous parlerai
pas de la douleur
que me cause la
perte de l'amie qui
depuis trente ans d'une
liaison sans nuages
m'a donné toutes
les marques du plus
constant d'avancement.
L'affection qui vous
unit à Sarah vous
permet de comprendre
mieux que personne
peut-être la perte cruelle

[*Page 2*]

que je fais. J'espérais,
Gabrielle étant beaucoup
plus jeune que moi
qu'elle aurait soin de
mes derniers jours et
me fermerait les yeux.
Dieu l'a reprise; la terrible
embolie l'a asphyxiée
en une nuit, au
moment où on la
croyait sauvée. — Ne
pouvant supporter
d'entendre tous nos
amis connaissances
revenir sans cesse
sur cet événement
horrible, — et souffrant
bien plus encore de

[*Page 3*]

ces tièdes condoléances
comme vous en [envoie *?*]
le monde (qui trouve
[tant *?*] exagéré en fait
le sentiment), je suis
venue m'enfermer
ici dans ma solitude
de Meudon où je
vis avec mes souvenirs{.}
J'essaye de me rappeler
votre courage, votre
oubli de vous-même
à La Ferté quand vous
avez appris la mort
de votre soeur. Mais je
n'ai pas votre force d'âme,
et puis je crois que certains
deuils du coeur peuvent

[*Page 4*]

être plus profonds
encore que beaucoup
de deuils de famille. La
disparition de mon frère
lui-même, l'an dernier, presque
à pareille époque, n'avait
pas creusé dans ma vie
le vide que je sens aujourd'hui.
Après deux mois de maladie,
je suis faible de toutes manières
il me semble que tout
m'échappe et c'est mal
car j'ai encore des amies
parfaites, je vous ai encore

chères inséparables que ma
pensée va si souvent chercher.
A Meudon dans ma chambre
presque aussi austère qu'une
cellule de Carmélite, mais
qui donne sur
l'horizon déjà [printanier *?*]

[*Page 5*]

ce monde [tout *?*]] le
[*unrecognized word*]. M. Delzant
est enfui avec ses
enfants en Italie où
Vernon Lee les reçoit.
Elle est, pauvre Violet Paget,
plus affligée peut-être
que tous les autres ensemble.
Elle adorait Gabrielle qui
avait su ajouter un
coeur à son cerveau.
Dans la dernière lettre
elle me dit — Emmenez-
moi en Amérique. Il
faut que je me renouvelle{,}
que je me [retrempe *?*].
Et je lui ai répondu
du fond de ma propre
douleur: — Oui, [nous irons *?*].
Je vous dis cela pour vous
montrer de quel côté deux
coeurs désolés se tournent.

[*Page 6*]

de la vallée de la
Loire. J'ai lu votre
délicieux article, [concernant *?*]
à ma sainte patronne.
Comme je vous sais
gré d'avoir d'avais dégagé de cette
grande figure ce qui
peut la rendre intéressante
aux yeux des protestants,
comme à ceux des
catholiques, parce que ce
sont les vertus au-
dessus de toutes les
différences du dogme. —

_____

Ste Thérèse par son génie
naturel fut certainement
l'un des docteurs de notre
église, mais elle appartient
mysticisme à part, à

[*Page 7*]

toutes les églises chrétiennes
à l'humanité. [Tout / Vaut entière *?*]
et vous l'avez fait admirablement
sentir avec la large puissance
de sympathie qui est en
vous. —
L'une des dernières choses
que m'ait [dites *?*] Gabrielle
c'est qu'elle voulait
vous écrire; elle s'enquérait
sans cesse de vos nouvelles
à toutes deux. Pendant
l'affreuse hémorragie qui
faisait couler tout le
sang de ses veines, car
la phlébite avait pour
cause un fibrome
inconnu, elle m'a
dit: — Me voilà comme
Sénèque. Eh bien <u>ce n'est
rien</u> ou plutôt tout est

[*Page 8*]

bien pourvu que ce
soit en parfaite conformité
avec la volonté de
Dieu. — Elle a fait
le sourire aux lèvres
le sacrifice de sa vie,
et nous a laissé
un exemple presque
décourageant — par
sa perfection, mais
qui rendra cependant
un peu meilleur
chacun de nous.
Jamais on n'a
vu pareille unanimité
de regrets. C'est une
force bienfaisante
qui disparaît [et *?*]

[*Cross-written up the right side of page 5*]

deux fois déjà m'a élevée au dessus de
moi -même. Que Dieu la bénisse{,}
que Dieu vous bénisse [aussi *?*] {.}

Th B

[*Cross-written down the left side of page 5*]

[spontaneously *?*]
[Trave *or* Trove] [houser or hunter ?] a [
unrecognized word]
pour [*unrecognized words*]. — L'Amérique, c'est
vous, c'est Sarah, c'est la forte influence qui

Sarah Orne Jewett to Marie Thérèse de Solms Blanc Fragment

[*February-March 1903*]*

… complain no more, this letter is dull enough without that!

I wonder if it is too late to make a change or two in the French edition of my Tory Lover?* — On the 23rd page, for example, where (3rd line from foot) I say Prince of Conti, I should like to say Duke of Berwick, and ^on^ page 154 is a gap in the edition I sent Mlle Douĕsnel,* and in your first edition a great mistake on the middle of the page! I said Duke de Sully at a venture and never corrected it until the second edition where the whole phrase was cut out — that should be Duke of

[*Page 2*]

Berwick too or read ^thus^ = "added the old Irish rebel, who had been like a son to his father's friend the great Duke of Berwick, Marshal of France."* If there is a second edition I should like to have the first of these corrected in the plates (Prince of Conti ^erased^ for Duke of Berwick.)*

I had a note of sympathy for my illness from the translator, but I fear that you have had a very trying and tiresome [work *?*] in supplementing hers.

Please give my affectionate homage to Madame de Beaulaincourt{.}*

[*Page 3*]

It is delightful — the success of Monsieur 'Ski.'* — I should like to send a new message of thanks for the postcards, which renew the delight of my day's visit — I do not forget a moment that I spent at Acosta. Under your French skies the violets will soon be blooming again there, with the new Spring.

My sister sends you her love. She has had a busy winter, as you will* know, and Theodore has been working hard at his professional school. Timmy looks old, but his heart is ever young and a little affair of honour with dogs of the village sends him home wounded but

[*Page 4*]

victorious from time to time. I wish that you were here my dear friend in this bright winter weather. I do not know if I have told you that our good John* has died — it was in December, and from the effects of his army wound. You will know how much we miss that good friend and servant of nearly thirty years.

There is everything to say, and I have said nothing! I remember in this moment to ask you if you are really translating Lady Rose's Daughter* for the Revue as our newspapers say? I have been looking over the letters of Mlle de Lespinasse* — the story has curious unlikenesses of character with likeness

[*Up the left margin and across the top margin of page 1*]

of plot. Whatever one may say it seems so far as I have read, a great story and far beyond her others.*

Yours with
unfailing love
S. O. J.

Notes

1903: The letter's content supports this dating of the letter. See notes below.

Tory Lover: Jewett's *The Tory Lover* (1901).

Douĕsnel: Mlle H. Douĕsnel translated *The Tory Lover* as *Le Roman d'Un Loyaliste* (1905).

of France: Jewett has made a large period after "France" and circled it.

Berwick: Richard Cary notes:

> On page 154 of the first edition of *The Tory Lover* (first state of text, red binding), lines 16-17 read: rebel, who had seen with his own eyes the great Duke / de Sully, Marshal of France. In the 1901 reprint (second state of text, blue binding), the sentence is curtailed after rebel and a two-line blank follows. Prince of Conti was not corrected on page 23 of the reprint.
>
> This also remains unchanged in the 1905 French edition (page 34), and a compression in the translation (page 200) eliminates all reference to Duke and Marshal.
>
> In the English edition (London: Smith, Elder & Co., 1901), Prince of Conti is retained (page 20), as is the full sentence concerning Duke and Marshal (page 136).

Beaulaincourt: Sophie de Beaulaincourt. Key to Correspondents. Jewett and Fields visited de Beaulaincourt at Le Château d'Acosta during their 1898 trip to France.

"Ski": Cary writes:

'Ski' is the diminutive of Viradobetski, the Polish sculptor and dilettante of "tous les arts" in Proust's *Remembrance of Things Past*. Miss Jewett is referring to the original of this character, a lifelong friend of Proust, Frédéric de Madrazo. A dabbler in singing, composing, and painting, he was a favorite in salons like that of Madame de Beaulaincourt (1818-1904). Cary does not explain how he knows this is the intended reference.

will: Jewett appears to have superimposed two words, "will" and "well." I have accepted Cary's decision as to her final intention.

John: John Tucker. Key to Correspondents.

Daughter: Mary Augusta (Mrs. Humphry) Ward's *Lady Rose's Daughter* (1903). Key to Correspondents.

Cary says that Blanc's translation, *La Fille de Lady Rose*, translated by Th. Bentzon, "appeared in seven installments in the *Revue des Deux Mondes*, n.s. XVII, from September 15 through December 15, 1903."

Lespinasse: Cary notes:

Julie Jeanne Eléanore de Lespinasse (1732-1776) presided over one of the more famous salons in the Paris of her day. Her death is said to have been hastened by the marriage of Count de Guibert to another woman. The *Lettres écrites de 1773 à 1776 by Mlle de Lespinasse* contains a record of this unrequited love. First published by the count's widow in two volumes in 1809, it went through several editions, then was issued in 1893 with an introduction by Sainte-Beuve. The edition Miss Jewett probably read is the translation of this text by Katharine Prescott Wormeley, distributed by the Boston firm of Hardy, Pratt & Company in 1901, 1902, and 1903. In the Introduction to *Lady Rose's Daughter* — volume XI, the *Autograph Edition of The Writings of Mrs. Humphry Ward* (Boston, 1910) — Mrs. Ward reveals that she "saw the germ of a story" in "Sainte-Beuve's study of Julie de Lespinasse."

others: Cary notes that Wormeley strongly agreed with this. See Wormeley to Jewett of 14 March 1903.

The manuscript of this letter is held by the Colby College Special Collections, Waterville, ME: JEWE.1. Richard Cary included his transcription in *Sarah Orne Jewett Letters.* New transcription and notes.

Sarah Orne Jewett to Annie Adams Fields

Friday morning
[*Late Winter 1903*]

Dearest Annie.

I was so glad to get your little letty — The telephone loses value if you cant go to Hear it yourself. I miss you dreadfully but I feel very comfy and happy at home and it is wonderful how much of you seems to be left in your room! I continue to sleep nicely [but *corrected*] I am disappointed about being able to get up and about the house a [little *?*]. I have

[*Page 2*]

been very good on the whole about buttons, which must show a decided moral gain in tone! — I hear the birds in the morning with great pleasure but the sky looks a little wintry still. When you are finding your things to come will you please take a story "Cornhill"* that I [shoul *intending* should] like to read something in? Good bye dearest from your loving Pinny.

Notes

Late Winter 1903: This letter shows several signs of being composed in the months following Jewett's serious carriage accident of September 1902, including erratic handwriting, in which she is unable to maintain straight lines of script. A number of the words in this transcription are actually guessable scrawls in the manuscript.

Given Jewett's reference to bird song and a "still" wintry sky, it seems likely she wrote this in the late winter of 1903.

story "Cornhill": Presumably, Jewett means not the British literary magazine named *Cornhill*, but *The Cornhill Booklet*, published in Boston, 1900-1914, which in its Autumn 1902 issue, reprinted Jewett's essay, "A Plea for Front Yards."

The manuscript of this letter is held by the Houghton Library of Harvard University. Jewett, Sarah Orne, 1849-1909. Annie Fields (Adams) 1834-1915, recipient. 194 letters; 1877-1909 & [n.d.] Sarah Orne Jewett correspondence, 1861-1930. MS Am 1743 (255).

Katharine Prescott Wormeley to Sarah Orne Jewett

"Brookmead"
March 14
1903

My dear Mifs Jewett,

I am so deeply grieved at the long and grievous results of you accident.* I had no idea it was anything so serious. I have asked Mrs Fitz* twice to find out how and where you were — and I have written you twice and directed to North Berwick.*

I directed that paper the other day to South Berwick thinking I should find out thus if I had been directing wrong.

I cant think how you can have been so injured as to be [*unrecognized words*] in recovering — — But I wont worry you with questions.

It must have been such

[*Page 2*]

a sad lonely winter for you — and grievous for your sister — remember me to her with great sympathy. ^Perhaps^ [*deleted word, possibly* if] you have hardly been able safely to write, and that would add to the distress, for you must have been thinking things in [your mind *?*] all along.

I sent you that paper with the review by the literary editor of the Tribune,* [more *?*] as it were, tentatively, to see if it would bring me a letter — and it has!

With regard to the book I feel vexed with Mrs Ward* for having degraded [Mlle *corrected*] de Lespinasse into an adventuress — I dont think she had the right to take a real person and insult her

[*Page 3*]

memory. I have always noticed in Mrs Ward a certain English middle class snobbishness; which is a thing that does not exist in this country, and therefore Americans do not, as a rule, [perceive *?*] it.

I feel a little vexed, personally about this affair, because I am afraid the publishers of my translation of Mlle de L. are going to make profit out of it. Heineman cabled for 1000 copies to be sent to him at once — and this seems to have stirred ^up^ ~~about~~ the Boston publishers to bring out a cheap edition.

I hope you will know and feel that I have nothing to do with such things. I sold my rights of [every- *so written*] kind when I translated that (and all my other books) and I know ^nothing^ about their publication, I have [no *not with deleted t*] profit from it.

[*Page 4*]

This hot weather has proved too much for me, and I go Monday for a few weeks to Newport for a breath of sea-air.

I have been busy this winter building a house here for a friend. It has been a great amusement, although I am [wofully *so spelled*] disappointed that after designing the hall and staircase for panelling, she wont have the panelling done, and prefers to paper its dreary length, with a picture-ruin paper! — one piece on top of the other! — awful! ---

Dear friend, I hope that open air will revive you altogether. Confinement is an evil in itself — I do hope and pray you may soon be your own self again —

Your affectionate friend
K.P.W

Notes

accident: Wormeley refers to the September 1902 carriage accident which brought an end to Jewett's publishing career. Wormeley more than once expressed the hope that Jewett would be able to resume writing fiction.

Mrs. Fitz: Mrs. Fitz appears in several of Wormeley's letters as a close friend and traveling companion. She may be Henrietta Goddard Wigglesworth Fitz (1847-1929).

North Berwick: Jewett's home was in South Berwick, not far from North Berwick, ME.

literary editor of the Tribune: This item has not yet been identified.

de Lespinasse: French author and salonnière, Jeanne Julie Éléonore de Lespinasse (1732-1776).

British novelist Mary Augusta Ward (Key to Correspondents) was thought to have modeled Julie Le Breton in *Lady Rose's Daughter* (1903) on Lespinasse.

Wormeley's *Letters of Mlle. de Lespinasse, With Notes on her Life and Character*, was published in Boston in 1902, and then by Heineman.

The manuscript of this letter is held by the Houghton Library of Harvard University in Sarah Orne Jewett, Correspondence, MS Am 1743, Item 245, Wormeley, Katherine Prescott, 1830-1908. 7

letters. This transcription is from a photocopy held by the Maine Women Writers Collection, The Burton Trafton Papers, Box 2, Folder 98. An envelope associated with this letter is addressed to Jewett in South Berwick, canceled in Jackson, NH, on 14 March 1903. Written above the address in a different hand is the note: Miss Wormeley on Mrs Humphry Ward.

Sarah Orne Jewett to Annie Adams Fields

Sunday
[*March 1903*]*

Dearest Annie

(Wasn't it interesting that I should have been so concerned about your having a cold? I am sorry enough that my visions proved true — oh do be careful dear! but Miss Voshell* will know what to do for you. This is the time in winter when people get tired and have the grippe, but I do believe that we ought to be 'smoked' after we have had it — it is so contagious and may make so much trouble for others .---- I was very sorry that I laid blame in the wrong

[*Page 2*]

quarter (if there were blame!)* about Rosalie — but I did feel so for poor little Eppie.* What fun it would be to have her in the south room at Manchester if you were well! Dear little thing!) ---*

What do you think I read yesterday but a good piece of The Tory Lover!* You know how long it takes before you can sit down to a book of your own with any detachment — as if somebody else had written it? I have taken it up now and then and [found *corrected*] that it only worried me but yesterday was different — it seemed quite new and <u>whole</u>! and I really was delighted with my piece of work. I have never succeeded

[*Page 3*]

in doing anything except the Pointed Firs* that comes anywhere near it — my conscience upholds this happy belief, and whether it was a hundred years ago or now, is apart from the question altogether. The book of Ruth* ~~was~~ ^was^ [is *so written*] an historical novel in its day. The French Country House is no more real to writer or reader because Mrs. Sartoris* had made the visit & imagined she made some episodes a few summers before ---- I cant think what people are thinking of who didn't like the T. L. as much as some of my books of slight sketches which — are mostly imaginary! or even as well as the Pointed Firs — but as Brother Robert frankly remarked "They don't!" ---- I can't help being

[*Page 4*]

sure that somebody now and then <u>will</u> like it. (and if H. & M.* were as good publishers as they are printers it would have been done better —) However it did very well and lets not grumble about any thing. I think it wasn't very well fitted for a Serial — I am sorry for all that part of it, and for the foolish exhausting hurry I was led into.

---- (Yesterday Mrs. Perkins (Edith)* sent me some flowers too in the dearest little flat basket which will be lovely to carry to the garden this summer. I wonder if yours was like it? And a nice <u>dear</u> note. I am going to send you Mary Garrett's* letter which is a satisfaction. Please send it back{.} She is really affectionate and so kind. I wish you could whisk through the air to [Baltimore *?*]

[*Up the left margin and then across the top margin of page 1*]

and stay a month with her — but she will hardly be <u>going</u> before she has to stop!! Helen Merriman* brought me a can of Hymettus honey — she had some* at Stonehurst one day so I enjoyed the buzzy taste of hers and kept this for Mary G.)

[*Up the left margin and then across the top margin of page 2*]

for Christmas. Goodbye darling { — } everything is going well and I shall be down today.

Your own
Pinny.

Notes

March 1903: That Jewett has been re-reading *The Tory Lover*, that Annie Fields is ill and under the care of Lucy Voshell, and that Jewett cannot go to her points to this date, after Fields's minor stroke in the fall of 1902, following Jewett's serious carriage accident in September of 1902.

Most, but not all, parenthesis marks in this letter were penciled in by Fields.

Mrs Voshell: Fields's nurse, probably Lucy Voshell. See notes for Jewett to Lilian Aldrich of 5 January 1903.

blame): Parentheses around this phrase are by Jewett.

Rosalie ... Eppie: The identities of these people is unknown.

thing!) ----: This parenthesis mark, like most of the others in the letter is by Fields. Between this line

and the next, Fields has inserted in pencil: "begin here".

The Tory Lover: Jewett's last novel was serialized in *Atlantic Monthly*, beginning in 1900 and appeared as a book in 1901.

Pointed Firs: Jewett's *The Country of the Pointed Firs* (1896).

Ruth: The Book of Ruth, in the Old Testament of the Bible, recounts the story of a woman of Moab who converts to Judaism and adopts the Israelites as her people. It seems likely that Jewett wass thinking of what Henry James wrote to her in his letter of 5 October 1901: "The 'historic' novel is, for me, condemned, even in cases of labour as delicate as yours, to a fatal cheapness, for the simple reason that the difficulty of the job is inordinate & that a mere *escamotage*, in the interest of each, & of the abysmal public naïveté, becomes inevitable. You may multiply the little facts that can be got from pictures, & documents, relics & prints, as much as you like — the real thing is almost impossible to do, & in its essence the whole effect is as nought."

Mrs. Sartoris: Adelaide Kemble Sartoris (1815-1879) was an English opera singer, the younger sister of Fanny Kemble, actress and anti-slavery activist. She wrote *A Week in a French Country House* (1867).

H. & M.: Houghton, Mifflin & Co. Jewett's publisher.

Mrs. Perkins (Edith): Edith Forbes Perkins. Key to Correspondents. The parentheses around "Edith" are by Jewett.

Mary Garrett's: Key to Correspondents.

Helen Merriman: Key to Correspondents.

Hymettus honey ... some: It is not perfectly clear that Jewett has underlined this word; she may have meant to cross a T in the following line. Mount Hymettus is near Athens in Greece.

The manuscript of this letter is held by the Houghton Library of Harvard University. Jewett, Sarah Orne, 1849-1909. Annie Fields (Adams) 1834-1915, recipient. 194 letters; 1877-1909 & [n.d.] Sarah Orne Jewett correspondence, 1861-1930. MS Am 1743 (255).

Sarah Wyman Whitman to Sarah Orne Jewett

[*25 March 1903*]*

Darling: after much searching and [learning *?*] of trains, I have evolved a bold plan! which is to move on Brunswick* so that I lunch there, and have two hours for general inspection & then reach South Berwick about 7.30 if your dear sister Mary will

[*Page 2*]

take me in. — Then you will be already in bed! but in the morning there will be a happy hour before I take the 10 o'clk train for Boston. -----

I feel several different forms of ardor as I think of this & our [*two unrecognized words*] with great love

Sw
March 25th. 1903

Notes

Brunswick: Whitman plans a quick trip to Bowdoin College to prepare for designing a memorial window there, in honor of Jewett's father. Jewett is not able to join the trip as she continues confined to her home after her serious carriage accident the previous September.

The manuscript of this letter is held by the Houghton Library of Harvard University. Whitman, Sarah (Wyman) 1842-1904. 92 letters; [1884]-[1903] & [n.d.] Jewett, Sarah Orne, 1849-1909. Sarah Orne Jewett additional correspondence, 1868-1930. MS Am 1743.1 -107.

Richard Malcolm Johnston to Sarah Orne Jewett

Baltimore 33 W. North Ave.
March 27, 1903.

My dear Mifs Jewett:

Your delightful letter would have been answered sooner, but that I was away when it came and for some time afterwards. It tends to relieve me of some of the grief I had from missing the sight of you and Mrs. Fields while you were in Baltimore. I would have remained after the other guests went away that [Sunday *?*] as I was invited by Mifs Adams* to do: but I had an engagement to go only a little later

[*Page 2*]

with Mrs Johnston to a tea at [our poor friend's *?*] house.

Well, well! to think of it! To be disappointed in what would have given me so much pleasure! Of course the women and men who delayed could not have done otherwise with two such women. But they might have been a little lefs exacting, and let an old man have at least a little bit of your society.

But I thank you for your good letter and Mrs Fields for her kind words. I shall hope to have better luck the next time, if I live to

[*Page 3*]

see it. Having so taken the town, you should come again, and not so far off, to see how come on those whom you subjected.

I have always remembered with much pleasure that brief visit I made to Boston, especially the evening at Mrs Fields'. It seems hard that I who, all my life had desired to see that famous town, could see, in the [old *?*] times, only the Parker House and the Museum, being [*unrecognized word*] both by delay in the coming of my baggage, and an engagement to go to Philadelphia. But saw you and I saw Mrs Fields! and I would be willing to [swear *?*] that there wasn't any better thing in all St. Botolph's Town.* That

[*Page 4*]

I would! And so, when you two fine women visit again, give a thought to me, to the pleasure it was to me to know you, to my disappointment of meeting you [here *corrected*], and accept an old man's [*unrecognized word*].

Most sincerely your friend,
R. W. Johnston.

Mifs [Sarah *?*] O. Jewett.
South Berwick.
Maine.

Notes

Adams: Annie Fields's sister, the painter Elizabeth Adams. See Fields in Key to Correspondents.

St. Botolph's Town: This transcription is uncertain. If it is correct, Johnston may refer to the legend that Boston in Lincolnshire, UK, was named from the tower of St. Botolph's Church, a landmark named "Boston Stump" by sailors. Wikipedia.

Johnston seems to place possessives and contractions partially in superscript. I present these as is currently conventional.

The manuscript of this letter is held by the Houghton Library of Harvard University, Cambridge, MA. bMS Am 1743 Box 3, Item 119 I. Letters to Sarah Orne Jewett.

Sarah Orne Jewett to Lilian Woodman Aldrich

Friday morning
[*Winter or early spring, 1903*]*
[*Begin letterhead*]
South Berwick, Maine.
[*End letterhead*]

Dear Lilian

I have been wishing to write to you for so many days — ever since I knew that Mrs. Richardson's* long siege of suffering was over — but I knew that you would understand why I did not, and ^know^ that I thought of you very often. I have loved to remember how kind she was that autumn when A.F. and I were at Martinsville. I came really to know her there

[*Page 2*]

and we had such pleasant times together before she went away to town — We always talked about it afterward and I never shall forget it — I wish that you would send my love to Mr. Richardson when you write, and tell him that I feel the truest sympathy for him — it is such a hard time ~~while~~ { — } at first one remembers only the sad pain and difficult hours of a long illness but later this all fades out of mind, and then one keeps

[*Page 3*]

all the memories of happiness and pleasure. Thank Heaven that it is so! -----

You will be sure that I am always longing to get to town to be with dear A.F. but it is no use to think of it (for both our sakes) until I am much stronger. I keep having returns of the pain and dizziness in my head, but now these only last for a day or two and come further and further apart — By and by the doctors are sure that I

[*Page 4*]

shall miss them altogether! I am not very strong yet but I stay 'up' all the afternoon now and get down to luncheon & to tea, too — with Mary which is ~~much~~ cheerfuller for both of us. Give my love to dear T.B. (I want more sorts of a paper !!) When you see our dear friend* do tell me how she seems to you and if she is really getting on better. She has to be very careful not to overdo but [on *?*] 'better days' it is a great temptation to make the most of oneself! I suppose those are the very days when one should be

[*Up the left margin and then across the top margin of page 1*]

quiet and save up! I hope that you have good news from dear Charley?* Yours with much love and many wishes

S.O.J.

Notes

1903: Jewett indicates that she has nearly recovered enough from her September 1902 carriage accident to be able to look forward to leaving home to visit Annie Fields in Boston, making it very likely that his letter is from early 1903. However, it is possible that the letter comes from late in 1902.

Mrs. Richardson's: See William Richardson in Key to Correspondents.

dear friend: Probably Jewett refers to Sarah Wyman Whitman.

Charley: The Aldriches' twin sons, Talbot and Charles were born in 1868. Charles was diagnosed with tuberculosis in 1902, and he died two years later in March 1904.

The manuscript of this letter is held by the Houghton Library, Harvard University, Cambridge, Mass. Thomas Bailey Aldrich Papers, 119 letters of Thomas Bailey and Lilian Woodman Aldrich, 1837-1926. MS Am 1429 (117).

Sarah Orne Jewett probably to Mary Rice Jewett Fragment

Tuesday morning

[*1903*]

South Berwick, Maine

… Dont hurry back, we are getting on “soberly, righteously and godly” — (I used to think it was soberlily neighborlily and Godlily!) Timmy* is as well as can be.

With much love

Sarah

Notes

Timmy: This Jewett dog appears in her letters in 1899 and is reported as old but vigorous in 1903. It seems likely that this letter is from closer to 1903. Therefore, I have tentatively placed it in that year.

This text is from transcriptions from mixed repositories in the Maine Women Writer's Collection, University of New England, Letters from Sarah Orne Jewett, 1875-1890, Undated Letters, Folder 75, Burton Trafton Jewett Research Collection.

Sarah Orne Jewett to Annie Adams Fields

[*March, 1903*]*
Thursday

Dearest Annie

My window is open and the children are all in the streets going to school, it is so spring-like somehow and if I shut my eyes I might think it was Napoli there is such a racket! I never thought until this minute that all the French children may make a difference ~~it didn't~~ it wasn't quite ^so^ racketty (like a town of English sparrows.) once it seems to me. Perhaps you will say that it is this Pinny and her old cracked head. I begin to think that this old head is never going to mend either. Sometimes I

[*Page 2*]

feel better and then I get very hopeful — In the early winter I used to talk about getting to town, and Mary ^or the doctor^ would say what was quite true, that she was afraid that jolting in cars would be too much, or I should want to see everybody when I got there — and I used to cry out Oh do let me have my hopes about things! I am so tired and it has got to be so long now that I cant help snatching [at *corrected*] a little hope when I see it, but they dont fly by very often! Fuff to have patience with such a poor thing ---- oh when I think that

[*Page 3*]

if I were well how I could go and get you and take you to some nice place where you could get out, you and Miss Voshell* ^too^ so you could be nice and comfortable — I wouldn't go off and leave you! Silver vases indeed for that grabbing old Jew, but I pray Heaven never to owe them a cent or to have you, either!* Oh if I only could get well enough to take the dearest care of you! Nobody knows what a hard, anxious winter this has been, aching and worrying over and over. but we must be

[*Page 4*]

[be *repeated*] thankful that we were at home where we could get the [little *corrected*] comfort there ^is^ to be had — and not away in some unloved desolate places.

I feel as if the one thing you did want me to do had failed you, dear, but it wouldn't do to try that chilly wooden house now early in the season —

you know what it would be to try the Manchester house in March & April, even with coal enough. In summer it would be so different. Dont try to look ahead and worry dear [*penciled* ^and worry other people?^] — lets wait until ahead gets here and then do the best we can.

Mary sends you much love, she keeps well and cheerful so far, and drives a good deal because

[*Up the left and across the top margin of page 1*]

because the horses must be used, and it has been so good for her. Forgive anything wrong in this poor letter, and remember that I love you dear. And we are going to be well again, but it is very hard now.

Yours always,
Pinny

[*Up the left and across the top margin of page 4*]

I don't want to see the Howells letter,* his last Easy Chair was so hateful in its spirit that I cant get over it. So hateful and sneering at other people's work*

Notes

March 1903: This date is uncertain, but likely. Jewett suffered her carriage accident on 3 September 1902. In *Sarah Orne Jewett*, Paula Blanchard reports that Jewett was able to go to Boston again for the first time after the accident in April of 1903 (pp. 349-50). This information suggests that this letter likely was written in early spring, probably March of 1903. Though the letter could not have been written in 1904, because Fields was in Europe that spring, it is possible this letter comes from 1905 or 1906. It would help if one could discover the Howells piece to which Jewett refers in her post script.

Miss Voshell: Fields's nurse, probably Lucy Voshell. See notes for Jewett to Lilian Aldrich of 5 January 1903.

grabbing old Jew: This reference is obscure.

the Howells letter: William Dean Howells, editor at *Harper's Magazine* from 1886, began in 1900 the Editor's Easy Chair column, which appeared near the end of each issue. These columns generally were genial and rarely named living authors. It is not clear which column Jewett found so hateful, nor has another Howells piece appearing after 1902 yet been located that Jewett might have found "hateful and sneering."

The manuscript of this letter is at the University of New England, Maine Women Writers Collection, Jewett Collection, correspondence corr056-soj-af.05.

Sarah Wyman Whitman to Sarah Orne Jewett

[*1 April 1903*]*

Darling I [had *corrected*] meant to write last night also: but the day was longish, & my little Victor* had come to spend the night, & [we conversed *?*] in matters of the Universe in general, and rabbits in particular at such a rate that I felt correspondence under such circumstances would

[*Page 2*]

be truly out of place! But now that your letter comes, & you are no worse for the visit of a "business-friend," I feel so restored that I could do it again tomorrow! Instead of that I have been for a lovely hour with dear A.F. who wanted to know the very colour of your eyes: but had to be satisfied with some of my fine generalities: though I must own I thought pretty well of you, dearest, for a lady who had been so over-taken by a stone which had gathered no moss.

[*Page 3*]

[With *?*] the comfort of having seen you, comes a [minor *?*] & very tender gladness in thinking of George Howe's release* from that ever narrowing prison. — I have not seen Alice* today, but it is well [with *?*] her I am sure.

This is but one line as you see, with love & gratitude to two such hostesses — so please say to your dear Mary a recurring memory of the [little *?*] tasseled white curtains! How good it all was.

Yours
S

Notes

1 April 1903: The envelope associated with this letter was cancelled on 1 April 1903 and addressed to Jewett in South Berwick. On the front of the envelop are penciled notes: "1903" and "Talk with Victor" and "visit to S.B."

Whitman has recently completed a quick trip to Bowdoin College to prepare for designing a memorial window there, in honor of Jewett's father, followed by a night in South Berwick. Jewett was not able to join the trip as she continued confined to her home after her serious carriage accident the previous September.

Victor: Victor almost certainly is Victor Whitman Knauth (1895-1977), Whitman's grand-nephew, a twin son of her husband's niece, Mary Iles

Whitman Knauth, daughter of Henry Whitman's brother, Alfred.

George Howe's release: George Dudley Howe, husband of Whitman and Jewett's close friend, Alice Greenwood Howe, died on 31 March 1903. Key to Correspondents.

The manuscript of this letter is held by the Houghton Library of Harvard University. Whitman, Sarah (Wyman) 1842-1904. 92 letters; [1884]-[1903] & [n.d.] Jewett, Sarah Orne, 1849-1909. Sarah Orne Jewett additional correspondence, 1868-1930. MS Am 1743.1 -107.

Sarah Orne Jewett to Emily Marshall Otis Eliot

South Berwick, Maine
Thursday April 2nd [*1903*]*

Dear Mrs. Eliot

I can hardly tell you how much pleasure your kind remembrance and these lovely spring flowers have brought me. Indeed you are very kind! I am getting better and such a pleasure counts double — I was thinking very lately about you and especially about the day when I saw you in Newport at Miss Ticknor's{.}* I wonder if you will not remember it? I have missed so much my winter visits in town and especially being with Mrs. Fields.* I can hardly wait to get to her: you will know how hard it has been to be away.

With love and thanks for your dear kindness believe me ever

Yours most sincerely,
Sarah Orne Jewett

Notes

1903: This probable date is inferred from Jewett reporting that she has been seriously ill and has not seen Annie Adams Fields in Boston since before the previous winter. Her carriage accident of September 1902 kept her in South Berwick until about 15 April of 1903, when April 2 fell on a Thursday.

Miss Ticknor's: Carlock has left this name blank in the transcription and revealed it in a note. It is not clear why. See Anna Eliot Ticknor (1823-1896) in Key to Correspondents.

Note that at the presumed time of this letter, Miss Ticknor has been dead for about seven years. Assuming these various facts are accurate, Jewett apparently refers to a meeting a considerable time in the past.

This transcription appears in Nancy Ellen Carlock's 1939 Boston University thesis, *S.O.J. A Biography of Sarah Orne Jewett*. Carlock says that the manuscript of this letter is held by the Boston Athenaeum, and, in fact, the Athenaeum catalog indicates that the letter is in the Emily Marshall Otis Papers: L140.

Annie Adams Fields to Isabella Stewart Gardner and Mary E. Garrett* to Annie Fields

[*12 April 1903*]

[*At the top of page 1 in blue ink in Annie Field's hand appears this note to Gardner. written around the letterhead and main letter opening*.]

Dear Mrs. Gardner; The best thing I can do is to send this long note to you at once. Yours, with every good wish in this season,* and with unforgetting affection

Annie Fields

[*Begin letterhead, printed in blue ink top left are superimposed initials:* MEG]
101, West Monument Street,
Baltimore, Maryland.
[*End letterhead*]
Holland House, New York*
April 12, 1903

Dear Mrs. Fields,

I am going to write this evening to ask whether it would be possible for you to do something for me, in the confidence that you will without a moment's hesitation write me that you would rather not do it if you would in the least prefer not to.

The date of the annual meeting of our Naples Table Association,* which is to be held at Northampton at Smith College* this year, has been

[*Page 2*]

changed from the 25th April to the 18th, so that I expect to spend next Friday night there and to reach Boston sometime late Saturday afternoon — Miss Thomas* ^[Prest of Bryn Mawr *in A.F.'s hand*]^ will spend Saturday night at the hotel there with me but is obliged to return to Bryn Mawr [by *corrected*] Monday, so that she would either have to leave on Sunday during the day or take the through night train — What I wondered was whether there would be any possibility, if you were willing to ask her, of Mrs. Gardner's giving permission to see her "palace"* on Sunday -----

I get to Boston so seldom to my great regret & Miss Thomas so much less often even{,} that so far it has not been possible for us to see it, and my trip last week was

[*Page 3*]

unexpected, ~~so that~~ ^and^ of course there was no possibility of getting tickets at the last moment --- I tried to get them for the next public days, ~~next~~ April 21st, I think, hoping that I might be able to arrange to stay over in Boston for a few days after the Naples Table, but there was not one to be had for love or money --- If you prefer not to ask about Sunday, do you think it possible that she would sell an extra ticket beyond the 200 for the 21st?

I enclose your little note as I was able to get my note ^delivered^ to Mr. Sargent* without using it, and was afraid, that if I sent it in, without [absolute *corrected*] necessity, Mrs. Gardner might suspect me of trying to get into the galleries --- ^[!!!!!! "Did not know you! A.F." *in A.F.'s hand and in blue ink.*]^ It was so good of you to give it to me.

I am looking forward to really seeing

[*Page 4*]

you this next time, as I hope to be in town for four or five days — I do hope your English guest did not tire you, and that you are very soon going to have Sarah —

Miss Thomas who is spending the Easter holiday with me here, asks to be most kindly remembered.

With love

Affectionately yours,

Mary E. Garrett

Notes

Mary E. Garrett: The identity of this person actually is not certain. Mary Elizabeth Garrett (see Correspondents) was a close friend of Fields and Jewett. The letter seems clearly to be on her letterhead, but her address is that of the Garrett Jacobs Mansion in Baltimore, MD, the home of the wife of her deceased brother, Robert Garrett (1847-1896) and Mary Sloan Frick Garrett (later Jacobs, 1851-1936). Both Marys were connected with Bryn Mawr College. Other transcribers have read the middle initial in her signature as "S," though it could be "E."

Probably the letter was written by Mary Elizabeth Garrett, but it is possible the author is Mary Sloan Garrett.

this season: In 1903, April 12 was Easter Sunday.

Holland House: Garrett writes from the Holland House Hotel at 30th St. and Fifth Ave. in New York City.

Naples Table Association: In 1897, the American physiologist Ida Henrietta Hyde (1857-1945) founded the Naples Table Association to promote women's participation in scientific education and research.

Smith College: Smith remains a women's college in Northampton, MA.

Thomas: Wikipedia says: Martha Carey Thomas (1857-1935) "was an American educator, suffragist, linguist. She was the second president of Bryn Mawr College" (1894-1922).

Mr. Sargent: American artist John Singer Sargent (1856-1925). Though his residence and main studio were in London, he often worked in Boston and New York at the turn of the 20th century. In *Isabella Stewart Gardner and Fenway Court*, Morris Carter notes that in the winter of 1903, Sargent was using the Gothic Room at Fenway Court as his studio (p. 201). His 1888 portrait of Gardner is well-known.

Mrs. Gardner ... Palace: Morris Carter says "Fenway Court was first opened to the public on Wednesday, February 21, 1903. The price of admission was one dollar; the number of tickets was limited to two hundred, and they were sold at Herrick's Ticket Office" (p. 202).

The manuscript of this letter is held by the Fenway Museum, Papers of Isabella Stewart Gardner, Fields, Annie (Adams) (Mrs James T. Fields) 1882, 3 M letters, n.d., 1909, and letter from Mary S. Savell [Mary E. Garrett] to Annie Fields, 1903. 1915.

Dates in the manuscript are inconsistently presented: "th" and "st" sometimes are underlined; they always are in superscript. I have followed Garrett in underlining, but I have not used superscript.

Fields made notes on the letter in addition to the note at the top of page one. These all are in blue ink, in contrast to the black ink of the letter as a whole.

Sarah Orne Jewett to Sara Norton Fragment

South Berwick, Thursday.

[*April 1903*]*

I have been hoping to write to you, but, oddly enough now, when I am supposed to be better, it has grown a great deal harder either to read or

write. But I shall not let you go away without a word to say how much I love you. I am glad you liked that little book of Mrs. Meynell's. There is something so charming to me in the way she arranged it — the harmony — and the inevitableness of her own choice and good taste have done that perhaps. I had a little hope that you might carry it with you; sometimes it has been the only book that I could read for days. I was so sorry that I sent it away with such smudgy fly-leaves, — you might take an idle day on shipboard and make it clean again! I have a bad habit of writing in my books as if no one else were ever going to read them.

Notes

1903: This letter seems clearly to have been written after Jewett's debilitating carriage accident in September 1902. Alice Meynell's *Later Poems* (1902) is a slim volume of 37 pages. That Jewett has been reading and marking the book suggests that she has owned it for some time. Blanchard reports in *Sarah Orne Jewett* (1994), that Jewett was in bed for weeks after the accident, not eating with her family until October and not leaving home until April 1903 (349-51). Based on this information, I have dated this letter in April 1903.

This letter appears in Annie Fields, *Letters of Sarah Orne Jewett* (1911).

Sarah Orne Jewett to Ellen Chase

[*April 1903*]*

This year she wrote in the spring to her friend Ellen Chase:

"Did you hear all the song-sparrows as they came by on their way to Berwick?

"I have been ill, but you will tell me if the 'Pointed Firs' look all right this year, won't you?"

Notes

April 1903: Fields implies that the letter containing these lines was written in the same year as the previous undated letters in her collection. The last previous letter in this collection is dated in 1902. But Jewett's 1902 accident was in September. If, as seems likely, this letter comes after the accident and was written at a time when Jewett believes she'll not be able to spend time Down East in the following summer, the earliest possible date would be the spring of 1903.

This item appears in Annie Fields, *Letters of Sarah Orne Jewett* (1911).

Sarah Orne Jewett to Mary Rice Jewett

[*34 Beacon St. Tues. Night*]
[*14 or 21 April 1903*]*

I got some letters written this morning, but it makes the back of my neck ache to write, and I have had a peaceful (and idle!) afternoon.

Notes

1903: A transcriber's note with this text reads: [to Mary]. The rationale for the transcriber identifying the letter as from 34 Beacon St., the address of Susan Burley Cabot, is not given. If Jewett's sore neck is a result of her 1902 carriage accident, then she would not be writing any earlier than Monday 12 April 1903, when she first returned to Boston after that accident. 14 and 21 were the first two Tuesdays of this visit.

This text is from transcriptions from mixed repositories in the Maine Women Writer's Collection, University of New England, Letters from Sarah Orne Jewett, 1875-1890, Undated Letters, Folder 75, Burton Trafton Jewett Research Collection.

Sarah Orne Jewett to Mrs. Edith Forbes Perkins

Wednesday morning
[15 or 22 *April 1903*]*

Dear Mrs. Perkins

You were so kind to send me these lovely flowers — they are as bright as a little spring bonfire this gray rainy morning! It is very pleasant to be in town again, I can tell you! and to find dear Mrs. Fields so much better —

Yours most affectionately
Sarah O. Jewett

Notes

1903: Richard Cary places this letter in spring of 1903. This is a reasonable guess, given that Jewett returned to Boston on 12 April after a long absence following her carriage accident in September 1902. 15 and 22 were the first two Wednesdays of this visit.

This letter is held by Colby College Special Collections, Waterville, Maine: JEWE.1. Folder A54. It was originally transcribed, edited and annotated by Richard Cary for *Sarah Orne Jewett*

Letters (1967). New transcription and notes.

Robert Collyer to Annie Adams Fields

[*Begin letterhead*]
201 West 55th Street
New York
[*End letterhead*]

April 15th 1903

Dear and ever Dear Friend

When any word of your welfare reaches me it is to the good — Mary is my "best holt" but I listen for any rumors, and whispers, and trust they are all true gospel — And that when you climb Thunder hill* on your own feet [way *?*] along in the summer you will be as ever, or as Dr Furness* said to me after an illness I am better than I was before [*short deletion*] fell sick. I am well and busy — go to Philadelphia on Monday to attend the celebration of the 100th year since he was born and touch some old memories of our long and loving companionship. And on Monday May 19th I shall come on to Boston to the fellowship meeting of the Committee* on Hospitality where Brother Hale{,} myself and Mr Eliot* will shake hands at the Vendome with all the saints greeting who come there — Also I shall come in to see you the first spare moment on Tuesday and sit an hour if you do not say git out at the end of half an hour.

[*Page 2*]

Likewise I dream of dropping down to South Berwick on Tuesday afternoon to stay over night with Sarah and Mary but will write them first to know if I may venture and not overtask the dear friends.

Always in love
yours

Robert Collyer

Notes

Thunder Hill: Location of Fields's summer home in Manchester by the Sea, MA.

Dr. Furness: American clergyman and reformer, William Henry Furness (20 April 1802 - 1896). This is somewhat problematic, for the centenary of Furness's birth would have been in 1902.

companion: Collyer omits some periods in this letter. I have supplied them where they seem necessary.

Committee: Collyer may have spelled this "Comittee."

Brother Hale ... Mr Eliot: Edward Everett Hale. Key to Correspondents.

Mr. Eliot probably was American Unitarian minister, Samuel Atkins Eliot II (1862-1950).

The manuscript of this letter is held by the Huntington Library, San Marino, CA, in the James T. Fields Papers and Addenda Box 10: mss Fl 1-5637.

Sarah Wyman Whitman to Sarah Orne Jewett

[*15 April 1903*]*

O darling are you really here? This is too splendid: & makes me feel quite foolishly glad. Now somebody will be better, & the spring will lend her sap. Bless you & dearest A.F. together.

Sw

[*There is a postscript that I am unable to transcribe. It looks like:* Mlle her pinans was/has gone to Mrs Sluicenian, tell the Ladies.]

Notes

15 April 1903: The envelope associated with this letter was cancelled on 15 April 1903 and addressed to Jewett at 148 Charles Street, Boston. The occasion of this letter is Jewett's first visit to Boston after her serious carriage accident on 3 September 1902. In Jewett to Frances Parkman of 15 April, Jewett says she arrived on Monday 12 April.

The manuscript of this letter is held by the Houghton Library of Harvard University. Whitman, Sarah (Wyman) 1842-1904. 92 letters; [1884]-[1903] & [n.d.] Jewett, Sarah Orne, 1849-1909. Sarah Orne Jewett additional correspondence, 1868-1930. MS Am 1743.1 --107.

Sarah Orne Jewett to Mary Rice Jewett

Wednesday morning

[*15 or 22 April 1903*]*

Dear Mary

You mustn't keep worrying about me. I have really done better even with all the anxiety, for I have seen so few people and talked so little or been talked to! Sometimes I believe that I shall do better at the mountains if I go to just be alone. I know well enough what tires me and isn't the right thing, but all the time it has been so hard to avoid such things — the temptation is always coming up to do what will satisfy the other person. I had rest enough for months and months, it isn't that kind of rest, and I believe I should like to do what I

could without a nurse or anything, just as when I spent the fortnight at Mouse* with success; though the case now is some what different it might be cured with the same cure.

Notes

1903: Jewett's reference to having enforced rest for months indicates that she is writing after her 1902 carriage accident, and it seems likely she writes home on one of the first two Wednesdays during her first visit to Boston after the accident, during April of 1903.

Mouse: Jewett spent a couple weeks alone at Mouse Island, near Boothbay Harbor, ME, in 1899.

This text is from transcriptions from mixed repositories in the Maine Women Writer's Collection, University of New England, Letters from Sarah Orne Jewett, 1875-1890, Undated Letters, Folder 75, Burton Trafton Jewett Research Collection.

Sarah Orne Jewett to Mary Frances Parker Parkman

148 Charles Street
Thursday morning
[*16 April 1903*]

Dear Frances

Behold my present address and come to see a friend the first time you pass this way, like a good child! I came to town on Monday afternoon and yesterday, I spent in bed but the great adventure of coming seems to have gone off very well, though I shall

[*Page 2*]

have to keep pretty still I dare say.

You cant think how I wish to see you!

S. O. J.

I draw a long breath of contentment now and then because I have seen dear Mrs. Fields at last and found her better.

Notes

1903: 15 April is penciled in brackets below the return address on page 1, but that was a Wednesday. 16 April is supported by a number of other letters from this time indicating that Jewett had come to Boston for the first time since her carriage accident of September 1902. With this letter in the Houghton Library folder is an envelope addressed to Mrs. Parkman and cancelled on 15 April 1903. This small disagreement of the dates could have several explanations.

The manuscript of this letter is held by the Houghton Library, Harvard University, Cambridge, MA. Jewett, Sarah Orne, 1849-1909. 17 letters to Frances Parkman; [190-]-1907. Parkman family, Edward Twisleton, and Sarah Wyman Whitman additional papers, 1763-1917 (inclusive) 1850-1907 (bulk). MS Am 1408 (214-230).

Sarah Orne Jewett to Mary Rice Jewett

Friday night
[17 *April 1903*]

Dear Mary

I have received your letter (contents noted!) and now write a word before I go to bed after an active day with many tired spots in it of discouragement but on the whole a good day and some few bundles added to those that shall be sent. I went to Miss Kiff,* and she was a mother to me. I begin to understand Emily's* feelings entirely. She thinks that there was some thing settled from the bruise when I twisted my neck, for she could plainly feel it, and thinks she can make it depart and not only rubbed it (A Treatment!) but used a "mild current of electricity to the scalp" and I felt very much strung up and stepped round to old Helen's* on the way home and also rang for Josie Dexter in my pride and saw neither but Dan* for a minute going to Worcester, but on the way home I felt as if I were scattered all over the "road", and made of cork below my collar when I went into the Ludlow to see how sister Sarah* was. She looked so ill yesterday — and found her more flourishing and nice than I can now describe. Sarah Cabot made other arrangements. She had forgotten she was going to see her niece poor Mrs. Sam Cabot, so I stayed quiet here at lunch and felt <u>quite</u> poor in my health. Later in the afternoon Mrs. Fields's rubbing doctor* came — a nice woman — and I was kindly invited in and she felt of my neck and said the two top bones had 'got out of line['] when I fell and now had got fixed and set so they interfered with the flow of blood to the brain with their crookedness when anything happens to get more tired or "congested" — that is <u>her</u> word! She made me feel to see that the two sides of my neck were not even — and she also could feel with her fingers — and was interesting because she told what this state of things would be likely to do, and it was just what it has done the 'crowding' feeling & lack of balance etc. etc. She said she had just

such a patient once who was thrown from a horse — but she took that one very soon after & wished she could have seen me as soon etc. etc. I had a good little talk about Mrs. Fields with her. Then I rested awhile and afterward did my bundles, and at seven I went and had supper with Alice Howe who had telephoned and her Mary begged me so to come that I was glad not to refuse. We had the dearest time together, and she read more of the story and it was so quiet and nice. I was doubly glad I went and glad to get home to dear A.F. and the Kitty. I write all these particulars for you to search out the needle in the bundle of straw. You needn't send the book unless you think it would make a beautiful present for Dan to [illegible] I might pass it on as I dont care to keep it. How good about Katy.* Give my love to Susy if she comes, and to Katy. No more at present from Sarah

Notes

1903: This was the first Friday after Jewett returned to Boston on her first visit after being injured in a September 1902 carriage accident.

Miss Kiff: This is very speculative, but it appears Miss Kiff may be an early practitioner of the new chiropractic treatment developed by Daniel David Palmer at the turn of the twentieth century.

Emily's: This is likely to be Emily Tyson. Key to Correspondents.

old Helen's: Richard Cary identifies "Old Helen" as Helen Bigelow Merriman. Key to Correspondents.

Josie Dexter ... Dan: Josephine Anna Moore (1846-1937) was the second wife of Chicago lawyer Wirt Dexter (1832-1890). She returned to her Boston home after her husband's death, where she died, though she was buried with him in Chicago.

Dan probably is Rev. Daniel Merriman, spouse of "Old Helen" Merriman. Key to Correspondents.

sister Sarah: Annie Adams Fields's sister, Sarah Holland Adams (see Fields in Key to Correspondents) resided at the Ludlow Hotel in Boston after her return from many years residence in German.

Mrs. Sam Cabot: These references are mysterious. Jewett, of course, was close to her correspondent Sarah Cabot Wheelwright. Mrs. Wheelwright's brother, Dr. Samuel Cabot, married Hannah Lowell Jackson (1820-1879). She had a number of other brothers, but no nephew has yet been found who was named Samuel and whose wife was living after 1900. Jewett may refer to a different Sarah Cabot, but this person has not been identified.

rubbing doctor: It is remotely possible that Jewett refers to the wife or sister of Francis A. Cave, an Osteopathic physician practicing in Boston early in the twentieth century.

Alice Howe ... Mary: Alice Greenwood (Mrs. George Dudley) Howe. The identity of Mrs. Howe's "Mary" has not been determined. Key to Correspondents.

Katy: Katy Galvin. Key to Correspondents.

Susy: Though there are some other possibilities, it is likely Jewett refers to Susan Marcia Oakes Woodbury. Key to Correspondents.

This text is from transcriptions from mixed repositories in the Maine Women Writer's Collection, University of New England, Letters from Sarah Orne Jewett, 1875-1890, Folder 74, Burton Trafton Jewett Research Collection.

Sarah Orne Jewett to Isabella Stewart Gardner
Fragment

[*April 1903*]*

Dear Mrs Gardner

I hoped to bring this book to you long ago, but I could not, in a winter of many disappointments! . . And I was so sorry not to see you longer on Saturday, but I knew how eagerly Mrs. Fields was thinking of your visit — But I was only wishing to say things that never can be said about your beautiful kindness that night she was

[*text breaks off*]

Notes

1903: This speculative date hangs on the slender thread of the final words about Gardner's kindness to Annie Adams Fields on a particular night. It is probable that the night in question was Saturday 24 October 1902, when Fields collapsed at a Boston Symphony concert, and Gardner took her home and stayed with her. See Gardner to Jewett of 25 October 1902. Near this date in 1903 would have been Jewett's earliest opportunity after October 1902 to write to Gardner from Fields's home.

The manuscript of this letter is held by the Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum, Boston, MA.

Sarah Orne Jewett to Mary Rice Jewett

[Monday morning]
[*19 April 1903*]*

Tomorrow I shall have a good day I do hope, and in the afternoon her rubbing friend* comes. I shall be very careful of such a little handling of my neck goes a great way and I had a very great misery all day and night afterward — though both were kind and thought they were careful. I wont go into long stories but it is no use to get laid up this week! though I think Mrs. Cave* had good points in what she said — and I believe in the principle. I do think that as she said it is a question whether it isn't too late to get rid of the thickening where the hurt was, if that's what it is. They gave me enough iodide of potash* to float a man of war* thinking that was going to absorb it. I d'know! as Uncle Will* says and leaves the question open but I hope to get round to a good days work tomorrow. I went out today awhile — and found Miss Grace Norton* here when I got back, which is always a great pleasure.

Notes

1903: This letter seems closely related to Sarah Orne Jewett to Mary Rice Jewett, Friday night, [*1903*]. Handwritten notes with this text read [to Mary] [Monday Morning]. If Monday is the correct day, then probably this letter was composed on the second of the three Mondays Jewett spent with Fields in Boston during her April 1903 visit.

her rubbing friend: Probably referring to Annie Adams Fields. The "rubbing friend" is more obscure. Jewett seems to imply in this letter that Annie Fields's rubbing doctor from the "Friday night" letter is also the "rubbing friend" of this letter and that her name was Mrs. Cave. It is remotely possible that this is the wife or sister of Francis A. Cave, an Osteopathic physician practicing in Boston early in the twentieth century.

iodide of potash: Potassium iodide is a chemical compound with multiple medical uses. How it was meant to function in Jewett's case is not clear, unless, perhaps, Jewett's caretakers were treating her swelling as if it were a goiter. Wikipedia lists these common side effects of ingesting the compound: vomiting, diarrhea, abdominal pain, rash, and swelling of the salivary glands.

man of war: a heavily armed warship, which would displace a good deal of water.

Uncle Will: Uncle Will is Dr. William G. Perry (1823-1910), husband of Lucretia Fisk Perry. Key to Correspondents. It seems likely that Uncle Will's phrase "I d'know," means "I don't know."

Grace Norton: Key to Correspondents.

This text is from transcriptions from mixed repositories in the Maine Women Writer's Collection, University of New England, Letters from Sarah Orne Jewett, 1875-1890, Folder 74, Burton Trafton Jewett Research Collection.

Sarah Orne Jewett to Mary Rice Jewett

Monday night
[*19 April 1903*]*

Dear Mar

I am ever so sorry about Mr. Brown* — he was a good kind little man. I send you my letter from Theodore. It was a cold damp day to get to Cambridge yesterday so that he must be really all right. Poor Aunt Mary Bell* — it looks as if she would hardly pull up from such a long winter's siege. I have wished that Uncle Will* had her to take care of — he has such a gift with "old cases" — but of course he is old now, and perhaps they dont get on with him as we do, happily. I have very little to tell — it was such a bad wet day that I didn't try to go out again as I meant to do. Mary Perkins* was here, as dear as a young girl as she was as a child, and Lucy Rantoul & her little girl and Rosamond.* I had a great half an hour's sleep or more this afternoon, and I have felt better. I have been awake at night, and then waked up with (?)* pains in my head lately but now I have got righted perhaps. Frances Parkman* was here this day but Mrs. Cabot* got all the call as I was or had been rubbing.* Good night with love from Sarah

Notes

April 1903: A handwritten note on this transcription reads: 189-. However, the letter seems to have been composed after Jewett's 1902 carriage accident, in late April of 1903, when Jewett first returned to Boston. See Jewett's letter to Mary of Monday Morning 19 April 1903.

Mr. Brown: While this could be J. Appleton Brown who died in 1902, the context suggests this Mr. Brown was a resident of South Berwick or at least, someone about whom Mary would hear before Sarah.

Poor Aunt Mary Bell: Key to Correspondents. Mary Bell died on 3 February 1904.

Uncle Will: Dr. William G. Perry (1823-1910), husband of Lucretia Fisk Perry. Key to Correspondents.

Mary Perkins: Almost certainly, Mary Russell Perkins (1883-1970), the youngest daughter of Edith Forbes Perkins. See Edith Forbes Perkins in Key to Correspondents. Mary Perkins "lived much of her life in California. She was an amateur historian who was interested in George A. Custer and the history of Western America. Mary Perkins died May 31, 1970, in Santa Barbara, California." She is buried in Milton, MA.

Lucy Rantoul & her little girl and Rosamond: Lucy Sanders Saltonstall (1871-1947) married Neal Rantoul (1870-1956). They had two daughters, Josephine Lee (1894-1962) and Lucy Saltonstall (1913-1958). Mrs. Rantoul's sister was Rosamund Saltonstall (1881-1953); she married Charles Crook Auchincloss (1881-1961) in about 1906.

with (?) pains in my head*: The parenthetical question mark probably is the transcriber's note rather than a part of the text. This detail suggests that the letter is from a time after Jewett's September 1902 carriage accident.

Frances Parkman: Mary Frances Parker Parkman. Key to Correspondents.

Mrs. Cabot: Susan Burley Cabot. Key to Correspondents.

rubbing: In a letter of 19 April, Jewett reports from Boston to Mary Jewett a visit from Annie Fields's "rubbing doctor."

This text is from transcriptions from mixed repositories in the Maine Women Writer's Collection, University of New England, Letters from Sarah Orne Jewett, 1875-1890, Folder 73, Burton Trafton Jewett Research Collection.

Sarah Orne Jewett to Roger Livingston Scaife

148 Charles Street
Monday ----
[*19 April 1903*]*

Dear Mr Scaife

I think you very much for your kind note and for Mr Wasson's book* — I had read some of the stories, ^with pleasure^ but Deacon Spurshoe's Jonah seems to me to go quite beyond the rest, with imagination, and a subtle touch of pathos in its humour. The book is quite a gold mine for

[*Page 2*]

the Dialect society! — I do not believe you can hear so many interesting survivals of ancient ^English^ speech anywhere in this country as in that corner o Maine — Crom (or crawm as Mr. Wasson writes it) was a favorite word with an old servant of ours who was born in Kittery. I never heard anyone else use the word.

— Thank you very much for such kind remembrance

[*Page 3*]*

and believe me ever
Yours most sincerely
S. O. Jewett

I wish that I might ask if you would come to see me, but I am still obliged to keep very still, and as dull as possible! — though it is a great pleasure to be here and to find Mrs. Fields so much better.

Notes

19 April 1903: This letter seems to have been composed during Jewett's first visit to Boston after her September 1902 carriage accident, which left her incapacitated for the rest of her life. Her stay lasted through last two weeks April of 1903. I have given this letter the date of the second of the three Mondays of her stay, but it is quite possible, she wrote it on the Third Monday, 27 April.

In the upper left corner of p. 1, stamped in red ink, an oval containing the initials HPM. Two holes are punched in the right margin.

Mr Wasson's book: *Cap'n Simeon's Store* (1903) by American novelist and painter, George Savary Wasson (1855-1932). During his adult life, he resided at Kittery Point, ME. Jewett also would note that this book was illustrated by her friend, Marcia Oakes Woodbury. Key to Correspondents.

crawm: A digital search of on-line texts did not turn up this word in Wasson's book, but such searches are not perfectly reliable. Jewett's "crom" in this context is likely to mean bent or curved, with origins in Old English and Irish.

Page 3: Jewett has turned her sheet 90 degrees counter-clockwise to write on this page.

The manuscript of this letter is held by the Houghton Library of Harvard University in Houghton Mifflin Company correspondence and records, 1832-1944, Jewett, Sarah Orne, 1849-1909. 68 letters from; 1870-1907 and [n.d.]. MS Am 1925 (962).

Sarah Orne Jewett to Mary Rice Jewett

Friday morning

[*24 April 1903*]*

Dear Mary

"Those steamers are small; I couldn't help wishing Susy* a fair day for the passage. And she has seen Nelly Bell & "Mrs. Bikélas….* My! how I begin to wish to shake out dear A. F.'s* little pockets to hear things! --- I am doing well. I think that if I stole something big enough to merit solitary confinement it would be as cheap and good a cure as any, but I was glad to see Josie D."*

Notes

1903: That Jewett speaks of being cured by solitary confinement suggests that it goes with other letters from around April 1903, when Jewett made her first visit to Boston after her September 1902 accident. However, this is not certain.
The quotation marks in this text seem uncharacteristic. It is not clear why they are present.

Susy: Probably this was Susan Hayes Ward. Key to Correspondents.

Nelly Bell & Mrs Bikélas: Nelly/Helen Bell, step-daughter of Mary Elizabeth Gray Bell. Key to Correspondents. Mrs Bikélas has not been identified.

Josie D: Josephine Anna Moore (1846-1937) was the second wife of Chicago lawyer Wirt Dexter (1832-1890).

This text is from transcriptions from mixed repositories in the Maine Women Writer's Collection, University of New England, Letters from Sarah Orne Jewett, 1875-1890, Undated Letters, Folder 75, Burton Trafton Jewett Research Collection.

Sarah Orne Jewett to Mary Rice Jewett

[*27 April 1903*]*
Monday morning

Dear Mary

I went to see old Helen's* house yesterday and I think it is so pleasant and so handsome and befitting its owner! She came after me, and I stayed in the house a while and saw the first two stories, and then we [skippit *so spelled*] off to drive and had a lovely time. Dan* was preaching in Newton . . . .

Mary ^Garrett^* had come to early

[*Page 2*]

dinner instead of in the evening when she was going else-where — She comes again tonight but is going back tomorrow — I saw the pigeon holes for shoes, so now I am as good as others who have boasted —. I do hope that dear little Helen will have all the comfort she ought in that house, for it really is delightful. I had forgotten how charming S. W.'s old portrait of Roger* is, not so the portraits of Dan & Helen — the colour of Helen's, I think Abbott Thayer*

[*Page 3*]

made very good but it isn't exactly our Helen and poor S. W. had a bad day to paint Dan!! I should like to tuck those ornaments away — they are rather depressing to the dining room. You do not speak of your feelings: but I suppose they had to be put somewhere. The drawings in Helen's room were so charming to see again.

— It was really springlike and lovely — We drove round Jamaica Pond.* On Saturday A. F. & I had a nice drive too in the same direction, and who

[*Page 4*]

do you think came in a little while before we were starting but Grace! She doesn't look well at all — Ellen Mason had said she didn't, and that it tired her to come into town so that I thought the more of the visit which I enjoyed very much. — She was so nice. When you come perhaps you can go out to see her. I was rather tired when she came as I hurried to finish dressing myself to get down stairs to see her but I had a delightful call from her [. — *?*] I have just been reading your Saturday letter which did not arrive until now though the stamp of arrival

[*Page 5*]

noon*

Saturday afternoon [are *so written*] all right — Sister is sending the envelope to the Postmaster for this is a little too much delay. It is a very agreeable letty — and I am pleased that they [made *corrected*] you the President as far as [they *corrected*] could — and I think you would have been a good and pretty one but since you "felt unworthy" I am glad that Helen Sewall* is put. How we should like to speak of these things !! but I hope we soon shall — Oh no, the Gilmans* wont be starting yet so you must make your own plans. Perhaps you had better speak with

[*Page 6*]

Miss Parsons* by telephone within a day or two — She will know whether they are apt to delay much — I am doing well — I really think the change was a great thing, and A. F. was out in the garden a good while yesterday morning. I think she is better than when we came. We are going to drive at noon, as usual — it looks like a lovely day. There are those who have got a seamstress, Mary!

With much love

Sarah

Oh think of Coolidge!!* Down with tyrants!!

[*Up the left margin of page 5*]

I shall send the papers to Mrs. G.* — I did last week!

Notes

27 April 1903: A penciled note in another hand at the top center of page 1 reads: *Boston, Apr. 27, 1903*. While this date is possible, the rationale for it is not known, and there is some reason for skepticism. April 1903 was Jewett's first visit to Boston after her September 1902 carriage accident. In other letters to Mary from this month, she nearly always reports on her delicate health and on treatments she received. That this letter is filled with activities and says little about her health suggests that it may come from another year.

old Helen's: Helen Bigelow Merriman. Key to Correspondents.

Dan: Daniel Merriman, spouse of Helen B. Merriman. Key to Correspondents.

Mary Garrett: Mary Elizabeth Garrett. Key to Correspondents.

Roger: Sarah Wyman Whitman's portrait of the Merriman's son, Roger, has not yet been located. It was listed as part of "A Memorial Exhibition of Paintings by Sarah Wyman Whitman" in the *Museum of Fine Art [Boston] Bulletin* Vol. 4, No. 20, Jun., 1906, p. 23. At that time, the portrait was owned by his parents.

Abbott Thayer: American artist, Abbott Handerson Thayer (1849 - 1921) painted an oil portrait of Helen Bigelow Merriman in 1890.

Jamaica Pond: Wikipedia says that Jamaica Pond, in Jamaica Plain, is part of the Emerald Necklace of parks in Boston designed by Frederick Law Olmsted.

Grace: Grace Gordon Treadwell Walden. Key to Correspondents.

Ellen Mason: Key to Correspondents.

noon: It is not clear why Jewett wrote this word at the top of the page.

Helen Sewall: Probably Jewett refers to a South Berwick neighbor, Helen Drummond Sewall (1845-1922), who was sister to Jotham and Jane Sewall. Her parents were Rev. David B. and Mary Drummond Sewall. See Pirsig, *The Placenames of South Berwick*, p. 75, and *The Congregationalist* 107 (1922) p. 722.

Gilmans: There are too many people to whom Jewett may refer. Presumably, these Gilmans are one or more of the families to whom Jewett was related on her mother's side. See Charles Jervis and Alice Dunlap Gilman in Key to Correspondents.

Miss Parsons: The identity of this person is uncertain, but she may be Mary Sabra Parsons, daughter of Theophilus Parsons. Key to Correspondents.

Coolidge: Sarah Chauncey Woolsey. Key to Correspondents.

Mrs. G: The identity of this person is not known. Addressed as such, she probably is not a member of the family; therefore the likely candidates are Sophia Hayes Goodwin and Isabella Stewart Gardner. Key to Correspondents.

The manuscript of this letter is held by the University of New England Maine Women Writers Collection: Jewett Correspondence MWWC0196_02_00_070_01.

Robert Collyer to Annie Adams Fields

[*Begin letterhead*]
201 West 55th Street
New York
[*End letterhead*]

April 29th 1903

Dearest Friend

I will come gladly to my other home. You are ever and always so kind and I feared you might not yet be able to have me stay with you so I would put up ^at^* and put up with the Vendome. I cannot stay over Sunday but must return Friday or Saturday coming back from South Berwick to Boston on Thursday on an afternoon train. This is the way I am planning now but am open to correction except the return here by Sunday. I trust you are growing strong again as ever. We cannot have you otherwise. I had a good time in

Philadelphia last Monday when the 100th birthday of our dear my dear Father Furness* was kept in the church. Sent on the ms of my brief discourse to the Register* where I guess it will be printed this week.

In love yours always

Robert Collyer

[*Page 2*]

You must keep this dear little letter!*

Notes

home: Collyer omits many periods in this letter. I have supplied them wherever they seem necessary.

at: This insertion and the underline of "with" appear to be in pencil.

Furness: American clergyman and reformer, William Henry Furness (20 April 1802 - 1896).

Register: *The Christian Register* (1821-1957), a weekly publication of the American Unitarian Association. Collyer's "Some Memories of Dr. Furness," appeared in the issue of Thursday 30 April 1903, pp. 314-318.

letter: This note in another hand appears at the top right on the back of page 1. It is in blue ink, while Collyer almost always uses black.

The manuscript of this letter is held by the Huntington Library, San Marino, CA, in the James T. Fields Papers and Addenda Box 10: mss Fl 1-5637.

Houghton Mifflin & Company to Sarah Orne Jewett

[*Begin letterhead*]
All letters, to ensure prompt attention, must be addressed to the Firm.

CHICAGO OFFICE 378-358 WABASH AVENUE. | BOSTON OFFICE, 4 PARK STREET. | *NEW YORK OFFICE, 85 FIFTH AVENUE.*

HOUGHTON, MIFFLIN & COMPANY, Publishers.

Boston April 30, 1903

[*End letterhead*]

Miss Sarah Orne Jewett,

Dear Miss Jewett:

In sending you our check for $173.83 in settlement of the accompanying copyright statement, we wish again to express to you our sympathy in your recent prolonged illness, and the sincere hope that you will be out and about before very long and with your accustomed vigor, and that we may be privileged to see you at the Park Street office,* where your visits have been greatly missed during the past year. With all good wishes, believe us,

Faithfully yours,

[*Handwritten*: Houghton Mifflin & Co.]

Notes

1903: The date was typed in.

office: The comma was added here by hand. Jewett's long illness was the result of her 1902 carriage accident that ended her publishing career.

The manuscript of this letter is held by the Houghton Library of Harvard University: Sarah Orne Jewett Correspondence I, Letters to Sarah Orne Jewett. Houghton, Mifflin & Co., firm, publishers, Boston. 6 letters; 1891-1904.. (101). This transcription is from a photocopy held by the Maine Women Writer's Collection, University of New England, Letters from Sarah Orne Jewett, 1875-1890, Box 2, Folder 99, Burton Trafton Jewett Research Collection.

Sarah Wyman Whitman to Sarah Orne Jewett

[*May 1903*]*

Dear, if you are out this morning, will you look in at the Studio where I shall be till 2. I think I'll bring the drawing at about six, to 148, if possible for me to get there.

Yours in the haste of a leisurely May morning

SWW

Notes

May 1903: This speculative date is based upon this note's possible relation to other correspondence between Whitman and Jewett in early May 1903 regarding Whitman's work on a memorial window for Jewett's father at Bowdoin College.

This page was folded, and on the reverse side addressed to Jewett at 148 Charles Street.

The manuscript of this letter is held by the Houghton Library of Harvard University. Whitman, Sarah (Wyman) 1842-1904. 92 letters; [1884]-[1903] & [n.d.] Jewett, Sarah Orne, 1849-1909. Sarah Orne Jewett additional correspondence,

1868-1930. MS Am 1743.1 -107.

Sarah Orne Jewett to Sarah Wyman Whitman

[*Begin letterhead*]
South Berwick, Maine
[*End letterhead*]

Thursday
[*May 1903*]

Dearest S. W.

I was so sorry that I could not get to the Studio. I mean to say ^first^ that I could not see you again, — and you will be sure too that I think a great deal about the window . . I hope that it gets on without too much trouble to you? You must tell me when you wish to know what to put on it! but

[*Page 2*]

but [*repeated*] I dont know that there need be anything but the name Theodore Herman Jewett Class of 1834,* and I have thought beside of the Four Commands that Hippocrates gave to the great [*deleted word*] profession: Learning, Sagacity, Humanity, Probity* (or Integrity, if you like the word better.{) } All this I meant to talk about — perhaps we shall have a chance yet.

[*Page 3*]

or you will tell me if you think of anything else —

I am certainly no worse for the great adventure of going to town and indeed better, with something new to think about, but I was pretty tired for a few days ^after getting back^ — in ^the^ morning I stay in bed and in the afternoon I sit in the garden under an apple tree — and make believe read. It is a hurried and exacting life.

With best love always
S. O. J.

Notes

May 1903: This date is based upon the fact that Whitman is working on the memorial window that Jewett commissioned to honor her father at Bowdoin College, which Whitman completed in 1903.

Class of 1834: What text, if any, accompanies the window Jewett commissioned to honor her father at Bowdoin College has not been discovered. The window cannot be examined except from the outside as a result of repurposing the interior space of Memorial Hall.

Hippocrates: Hippocrates of Kos (c. 460 - c. 370 BC) was a Greek physician of the classical age, often called "the father of medicine," perhaps best remembered for his statement of medical ethics, "The Hippocratic Oath." The source of these "commands" has not yet been identified, but it is often repeated in medical literature of the 19th century that Hippocrates thought these qualities "indispensable in every good physician."

The manuscript of this letter is held by the Houghton Library of Harvard University, Cambridge. MA: Whitman, Sarah (Wyman) 1842-1904, recipient. 25 letters; 1892-[1900] & [n.d.]. Sarah Orne Jewett additional correspondence, 1868-1930. MS Am 1743.1 (126).

Jane E. Pitblado to Annie Adams Fields

May 2nd 1903

Dear Mrs Fields

I will guarantee that Mrs McCormack can be depended upon to do your or Miss Jewett's washing as it is comparatively near & she can work it in with her other half day's work, but to walk long distances for a '60 or '75 cents of work takes too much time, & she cannot afford to pay carfare going for & taking home the wash — 20 cents off each job — Poor Mrs McCormack is so faithful & kind — does her work so well — could not slight if she didn t make a cent, I like to favor her all I can{.}

Winnie O'Brien or Mary McNamara, can do good laundry work, but each one has an idle husband, smoking in the house most of the

[*Page 2*]

time & each has six children so it is hardly to be expected they could send home fresh sweet smelling washing; but after Mrs McCormack gives out you could try them — they take in washing for other people who are satisfied — however they have never had Mrs McCormack's work — well done & sent home fresh.

That makes a difference.

I will ask Miss Smith* if she knows of any others.

Hope you will excuse all this talk of

Jane E. Pitblado

May 2nd 1903*

Notes

Pitblado: This person has not yet been identified. There is some evidence in other letters that Fields and Jewett were acquainted with Euphemia / Effie

Wilson Pitblado (1849-1928), an American social reformer and writer, active in Woman Suffrage, Temperance, and missionary support. However, I have as yet found no evidence of there being a connection between Jane E. and Effie W. Pitblado.

Miss Smith: This person has not yet been identified.

1903: Penciled upside down beneath this date is this note.

—Something more than observation; and something more than perception — insight. Alice [Meynell *?*].

The quotation appears in *The Work of John Singer Sargent, R.A.* (1927), p. 28, from the introduction by Alice Meynell.

Alice Meynell's name is not clear in the note, but as she is known to have published the text, this guess probably is correct.

It is not known who wrote this note, though a careful examination of the handwriting might solve that problem. Unless Fields somehow saw Meynell's text before the 1927 publication, she could not have written it, as she died in 1915. Possibly Pitblado added it, but the handwriting seems not to be hers, and she would have had to possess this ms. after Fields received it and before it came to the Houghton.

Also not clear is whether the quotation was intended as a comment on the letter.

The manuscript of this letter is held by the Houghton Library of Harvard University, Cambridge, MA. bMS Am 1743 Box 7, Item 318, III. Letters to Annie Adams Fields.

Sarah Wyman Whitman to Mary Rice Jewett

[*3 May 1903*]*

Dear Miss Jewett:

You dont know how much I thank you for the [last *?*] report which came this morning: for I was so afraid the dear invalid was not quite solid enough for the journey. But if anything could help toward re-habilitation it would be the [indoor *?*]

[*Page 2*]

comfort of the old house at Brunswick, and the outdoor loveliness which I know is now flooding the New England country from end to end. Bay* and I thought this morning, like the starling,* that we must "get out" and into it all: but a voice Known as Duty's said otherwise! So have been grappling with Mrs Bullock's* [velors *?*] and laces, and constructing tombstones, and playing that I have forgotten how to wander as "lonely as a cloud"* . —

But you and Sarah will perhaps

[*Page 3*]

give us a thought at certain moments & I shall occasionally rejoice in my opportunities.

And you will rule The Authoress with a rod of Iron will you not? and believe in spite of this exultation of [princesses *?*], very affectionately yours & hers

Sw

Studio. May 3.

Notes

1903: Whitman's references to Sarah Orne Jewett being an invalid and to a planned trip to Brunswick, ME, indicate that this letter was composed in the spring after Jewett's September 1902 carriage accident and while Whitman was at work on a memorial window for the Jewett sisters' father at Bowdoin College.

Bay: Whitman's tom-cat. See *Letters of Sarah Wyman Whitman*, pp. 174-5.

starling: Whitman alludes to the starling that appears in Irish author Laurence Sterne's (1713-1768) *A Sentimental Journey* (1768), in the chapter entitled "The Passport." The narrator is moved by the caged bird speaking to him, repeating "I can't get out."

Mrs Bullock's: One might speculate that Whitman was painting a portrait of Mrs. Bullock, but whether such a portrait exists is not yet known. Though there were several Mrs. Bullocks in the Boston area in 1903, a likely subject for a portrait would have been Mary Chandler (1845-1934), wife of Augustus George Bullock (1847-1926). They were wealthy patrons of the arts in Boston. His father was Alexander Hamilton Bullock (1816-1882), who served as governor of Massachusetts just after the Civil War.

a cloud: From British romantic poet William Wordsworth (1770-1850), "I Wandered Lonely as a Cloud."

The manuscript of this letter is held by the Houghton Library of Harvard University. Whitman, Sarah (Wyman) 1842-1904. 92 letters; [1884]-[1903] & [n.d.] Jewett, Sarah Orne, 1849-1909. Sarah Orne Jewett additional correspondence, 1868-1930. MS Am 1743.1 -107.

Sarah Orne Jewett to Mrs Cole*

148 Charles Street
Saturday 16th May
[*1903*]*
[*Letterhead composed of Jewett's 3 initials superimposed inside a circle*]

My dear Mrs Cole

I shall accept with great pleasure your kind invitation on behalf of the New England Women's Club* to a Breakfast in honour of Mrs. Ward Howe at the Hotel

[*Page 2*]

Vendôme* on May 23d -----

Sarah Orne Jewett

Notes

Mrs. Cole: The identity of this person is not yet known. A Mrs. E. B. Cole is known to have served as president of an off-shoot of the New England Women's Club, the Wednesday Morning Club in Boston, during 1893-1895. However, it has proven difficult to further identify her or to learn more about her. She may be Ellen Standley Gale Cole (1859-1944), but this has not been established.

Another possibility is Mrs. Otto B. Cole, a Boston folklorist and translator active in woman's suffrage at the turn of the 20th century. Her given name may be Mollie R.

1903: This date is probable, but not certain. The *New York Times* (26 May 1907, p. 3) reports an annual birthday breakfast for Julia Ward Howe at the Hotel Vendôme, sponsored by the New England Women's Club. The most recent year in which May 16 fell on a Saturday was 1903. If Jewett has dated her letter correctly, then almost certainly she accepted this invitation for the 1903 celebration. Though Jewett was still weak from her September 1902 carriage accident, she was able to visit in Boston in the late spring of 1903. However, her letter of 23 May indicates that she was finally unable to attend.

New England Women's Club: This club was established in 1868. Run by women, with suffrage as a main cause, the club admitted men as members. Julia Ward Howe was among its founders. Her birthday was on 27 May.

Hotel Vendôme: This Boston luxury hotel opened in 1871.

The manuscript of this letter is held by the Small Library, University of Virginia, Special Collections MSS 6218, Sarah Orne Jewett Papers. The microfilm image of this note indicates that it was written on both sides of a card.

Sarah Orne Jewett to Annie Adams Fields

Saturday morng
[*23 May 1903*]*

Dearest Annie

I quite feel like missing you — all gone away to make a visit! Little F. to be good! but then there is nothing so ~~good~~ easy as to be [good *corrected*] on a visit! — at least I used to have that pleasure and after hearing myself named to be a naughty girl at home to overhear my praises in Exeter.* The status of a guest [must *corrected*] have been some assistance. A beautiful rain yesterday, and everything is growing splendidly — no more dust — but I only went out on the pavements round the house and a new little shower chased me

[*Page 2*]

in. Then I read but it was not a good day for reading — and finally sewed — the linen pillow cases being almost done. Mary was also doing something to one of her linen dresses.

I cant think just when I shall get back — perhaps not until Tuesday at noon! but we'll see!! I feel as if we had both been away a great while. And I shall have a lot to do. I forgot that I had promised (for [deep *?*] interest's sake) to go to the Breakfast for Mrs. Howe to day but I sent a telegram early this morning. The real birthday

[*Page 3*]

is on Wednesday — I wonder if Alice* sends flowers or 'does' anything, or isn't it one of her observances? I forget how much she cares .. You were going to see about a [Cake *?*]. I have remembered that I settled upon the Gilbert Murray book [*faded, unreadable words* — Thank you *?*] for the letters — with ever so much love

Your P.L.

Notes

23 May 1903: This date is strongly supported by Jewett's reference to a birthday celebration for Julia Ward Howe that probably took place on this date.

Exeter: Jewett's maternal grandparents resided in Exeter, NH.

Breakfast for Mrs. Howe: Though this has not been confirmed, probably the annual birthday

breakfast for Julia Ward Howe took place in Boston on Saturday 23 May 1903. Jewett wrote a letter of acceptance for this event that, probably on 16 May 1903.

Alice: Probably this is Alice Greenwood Howe. Key to Correspondents.

Gilbert Murray book: Australian-born British scholar, Gilbert Murray (1866-1957), remembered especially for his translations of classical Greek drama, as well as his historical and literary books on ancient Greek culture. Which of his many books Jewett thought of as a gift is not yet known.

The manuscript of this letter is held by the Huntington Library, San Marino, CA, in the James T. Fields papers: mss FL 5566. This manuscript has been damaged by water, making parts of the transcription less than normally certain.

Sarah Wyman Whitman to Sarah Orne Jewett

[*4 June 1903*]*

Darling I have your letter. I at once wrote to Miss Crawford* that she could see the window almost any day. Yes it is now a-getting done, & I guess its pretty heavy work not having the beloved Donor* round; to complain & dictate, & all the rest.

And O darling to hear you have more headaches* is too hard: but dont believe they are not going away. Its only that one does not get well all over at once — & I too have cause to know it. Old Fitz* can

[*Page 2*]

tell you a sorry tale of things: and yet, the real thing is gaining on all those pangs & disabilities.

And I do hope you will have those days with A.F. soon: for as you say, she is getting ahead — & so Alice* also testified when I was there to dine with her last Tuesday.

This is a message, not a letter: but you will have this from me when I have cleared up my garden patch a little! Getting things here ready for repairs, & there

[*Page 3*]

ready for occupancy is a new kind of Fox, Goose, & Bag of Corn* mentioned in ancient literature.

Therefore it is that this is all tonight from your ever devoted

Sw

Love to dear Mary and that beloved friend SOJ.

Notes

4 June 1903: The envelope associated with this letter was cancelled on 4 June 1903 and addressed to Jewett in South Berwick.

Miss Crawford: Miss Crawford has not yet been identified. However, if Jewett and Whitman are in communication with someone in Brunswick, ME, about the window Whitman is designing as a Bowdoin memorial to Jewett's father, then perhaps Whitman refers to Grace Crawford (1881-1976) of Brunswick, who married John Albert Robinson (1880-1966.)

beloved Donor: Almost certainly, Whitman means Jewett, as donor for the memorial window at Bowdoin College.

more headaches: Though Jewett's carriage accident took place the previous September, she continued to suffer its debilitating effects.

Old Fitz: This may be Dr. Reginald Heber Fitz (1843-1913), a prominent Massachusetts physician and a professor of Medicine at Harvard University.

Alice: Probably Alice Greenwood Howe. Key to Correspondents.

Fox, Goose, & Bag of Corn: A famous old riddle. In one variation: Once upon a time a farmer went to a market and purchased a fox, a goose, and a bag of beans. On his way home, the farmer came to the bank of a river and rented a boat. But crossing the river by boat, the farmer could carry only himself and a single one of his purchases: the fox, the goose, or the bag of beans. If left unattended together, the fox would eat the goose, or the goose would eat the beans. The farmer's challenge was to carry himself and his purchases to the far bank of the river, leaving each purchase intact. How did he do it?

The manuscript of this letter is held by the Houghton Library of Harvard University. Whitman, Sarah (Wyman) 1842-1904. 92 letters; [1884]-[1903] & [n.d.] Jewett, Sarah Orne, 1849-1909. Sarah Orne Jewett additional correspondence, 1868-1930. MS Am 1743.1 -107.

Annie Adams Fields to Lilian and Thomas Bailey Aldrich

Manchester by Sea, Mass
June 14th, 1903

My dear Lilian & T.B.

When the weather is warmer and you are in need of change or a half=way house may I not hope to see you here?

The old hill top is no younger but it is lovelier than ever, the mistress is strange enough to think and she is much better. Pray let me hear some day of your dear boy* and the whole household circle.

Affectionately yours
Annie Fields.

[*Up the left margin*]

Shall you be thinking of "The Harbor"?* In any event this would make a good halfway station{.} Pray think of it -----

[*Up the right margin*]

above all, come!

Notes

dear boy: The Aldrich's son, Charles, at this time was seriously ill with tuberculosis, and would die in the following year.

"The Harbor": Tenants Harbor, ME, where the Aldriches had a summer home.

The manuscript of this letter is held by the Houghton Library of Harvard University: Thomas Bailey Aldrich Papers, MS Am 1429, Box 6, Items 1446-1538.

Annie Adams Fields to Alice Meynell

June 17th 1903
Manchester by Sea, Mass

My very dear Alice Meynell:

And so you did not come to America at all this spring! Let it be only a happiness stored up for the near future.

It is lovely here by the sea in this month and those which are to follow. I wish you and Mr. Meynell could have been in Boston (and here) during the past month especially

[*Page 2*]

to have some part in the general tributes to Emerson and Channing.* Almost by accident as we say the Centennials fell in the same week. (It was the hundredth anniversary ~~of~~ ^since^ Channing's preaching began only){.} You would have been moved to see a whole people [touched *corrected*] by a deep sense of reverence. At Harvard University there were meetings every night in the week devoted to Emerson beside those in Boston{,} New York and elsewhere{.} His Rhodora* was found in the deep woods and brought into high light for the first time in its life perhaps. A beautiful monument to Channing was unveiled. Newspapers devoted a day and filled the pages with [*unrecognized word*]. In short it was a moving season for us all.

[*Page 3*]

Will you not come over this summer? I am much better and shall find it a true pleasure whenever you care to see your way clear to return. It is a joy to know your young people are happy{.} I hope they will not be obliged to wait too long to be married.* There is such a [thing *?*]. The not waiting however often means a retarding of development* ---- Sarah & I are both better and yet both far from well — that will come for her later. We keep the Flower of the Mind* by our side.

Affectionately yours
Annie Fields

Notes

Emerson and Channing: American author, Ralph Waldo Emerson (3 May1803 -1882).

American Unitarian preacher and theologian, William Ellery Channing (1780-1842). His monument, erected in 1903, stands in the Boston (MA) Public Garden.

For an account of the centennial of Emerson's birth in Concord, MA, see *The Centenary of the Birth of Ralph Waldo Emerson: As Observed in Concord, May 25, 1903*.

Fields refers to Emerson's poem, "The Rhodora," from which was taken the epigraph for the booklet on his centenary in Concord.

married: Meynell's eldest daughter, Monica (1880-1929), married Dr. Caleb William Saleeby (1878-1940) in June 1903. Meynell's other daughter, Madeleine, and her son, Everard, both married in 1908.

development: The transcription of this sentence is uncertain, as is its meaning.

Flower of the Mind: Meynell edited *The Flower of the Mind* (1897), an anthology of English verse.

This manuscript is held by the Greatham Library, in West Sussex, UK, owned by Oliver Hawkins, great grandson of Alice Meynell. A copy has been provided by independent scholar and editor of *The Selected Letters of Alice Meynell*, Damian Atkinson.

William DeWitt Hyde to Sarah Orne Jewett

[*Begin letterhead*]
Bowdoin College,
Brunswick, ME
[*End letterhead*]

June 21, 1903.

My dear Miss Jewett:

The window* is lovely, and a delight to all who have seen it. As the hall was in constant use, it was not put in place until

[*Page 2*]

yesterday.

Please accept once more our heartfelt thanks for this beautiful gift from our only well beloved daughter.

I have asked Mr. Lewis to take good care of Mr. Eastman while he is here.

[*Page 3*]

Professor Chapman* will receive the window for the College and Dr. Lewis will present it.

The mottoes* are admirably chosen: and as medicine is just now the favorite profession with Bowdoin men, it is especially appropriate.

[*Page 4*]

I trust your health* will soon permit you to come and see for yourself how beautiful you have made our Hall, and how happy we all are to have this memorial of your father's virtues, Mrs. Whitman's taste, and your own generous heart.

Faithfully Yours

Wᵐ DᵉW. Hyde

Notes

gift: Jewett gave to Bowdoin College a stained-glass window to honor her father, a Bowdoin alumnus and professor in the School of Medicine. The window was designed and built by Sarah Wyman Whitman. What text, if any, accompanies the window has not been discovered. The window cannot be examined except from the outside as a result of repurposing the interior space of Memorial Hall. Jewett told Whitman in a letter of May 1903 that she believed she wanted her father's name and "the Four Commands that Hippocrates gave to the great profession" on the window.

Lewis ... Eastman ... Chapman: For George Lothrop Lewis and Theodore Jewett Eastman, Key to Correspondents. Henry Leland Chapman (1845-1913) taught Latin, Rhetoric, and English Literature at Bowdoin College.

health: Jewett had been in poor health since her September 1902 carriage accident.

The manuscript of this letter is held by the Houghton Library of Harvard University: Sarah Orne Jewett Correspondence I, Letters to Sarah Orne Jewett. Hyde, William DeWitt, 1858-1917. 3 letters; 1901-1903. (108). This transcription is from a photocopy held by the Maine Women Writer's Collection, University of New England, Letters from Sarah Orne Jewett, 1875-1890, Box 2, Folder 99, Burton Trafton Jewett Research Collection.

Sarah Wyman Whitman to Sarah Orne Jewett

Old Place
June 21st

[*1903*]*

Darling I have been that foolish that I have waited for business facts, before writing an answer to your dear letter! But you will have to forgive: and it is now that I send this unkempt page still ignorant! But after all though mathematics is difficult facts is plain! And if the window passes the great Fire of Criticism you will owe me $400 — minus the costs at Brunswick.

[*Page 2*]

I know the [last *or* sash] cost $21. — about, but I have not been able to get from Mr Hyde any further details. But he will give them to you and so all will be well. ----- Its more than I can bear that you arent seeing it: & I have to rally again & again on Mary's liking it & pray you do likewise, bless you. -----

You see I am here: having come down in a storm & lived

[*Page 3*]

[lived *repeated*] in one [*two unrecognized words* sour guise *?*] — & today it rains from Tubs. Yet last night I did go & have a lovely dinner with A.F. & the Sullivans* — AF looking really just herself, & so [sweet *?*] & becoming. It made a dear

evening: and there are great anticipations of better yet to come.

Twins in good shape: & Alice to go to the Cliffs now for 3 days — & then comes Cory!*

Love to dear Mary — & I am yours

_Sw_

Notes

1903: The envelope associated with this letter was cancelled on 22 June 1903 and addressed to Jewett in South Berwick. Whitman appears to have superimposed a one over the zero when writing her date.

Mr. Hyde: William De Witt Hyde. Key to Correspondents. See his letter to Jewett of 21 June 1903.

Sullivans: These dinner guests of Annie Fields have not yet been identified.

Twins ... Alice ... the Cliffs ... Cory!: Which twins Whitman refers to is uncertain. It is somewhat likely that she means her grand-nephews: Felix and Victor Whitman Knauth, born in 1895. Jewett correspondent Alice Greenwood Howe owned "The Cliffs," her summer home in Manchester-by-the-Sea, MA.

Cory has not yet been identified.

The manuscript of this letter is held by the Houghton Library of Harvard University. Whitman, Sarah (Wyman) 1842-1904. 92 letters; [1884]-[1903] & [n.d.] Jewett, Sarah Orne, 1849-1909. Sarah Orne Jewett additional correspondence, 1868-1930. MS Am 1743.1 -107.

Robert Underwood Johnson to Annie Adams Fields and Sarah Orne Jewett

July 2, 1903

(Confidential)

My dear Mrs. Fields and Miss Jewett:

Having lately spent four months in Italy (with Mrs. Johnson) I have had you much in mind, though the multiplicity of duties has prevented me from writing to you. I hope you are both now thoroughly restored. Will you kindly let me know.

I am sure you will be interested in a movement which I set on foot in Rome this year on the anniversary of Keats's death to buy the house on the Piazza di Spagna in which he died and make of his apartment a Keats-Shelley museum.* The movement was quietly begun by eight* American writers then in Rome, under the chairmanship of Sir Rennell Rodd, who you may know, twice saved the grave of Keats from desecration, once by enlisting the intervention of Queen Victoria. We have organized three committees, that in America consisting of Mr. Stedman as chairman, myself as secretary, with those who were present as charter members, so to speak, many others to be added when the time comes. The committee in England consists of H. Buxton Forman and Sidney Colvin, with George Levinson Gower as secretary, with the hope of adding Lord Crewe and Robert Bridges. Of the Italian committee the chairman is Sir Rennell Rodd and the secretary Harry Nelson Gray, a fellow of Harvard, whom you may know, with the idea that others will be added when we are ready to begin operations.

It is proposed to organize an association to take charge of the house and museum therein, but also to insure in perpetuity that the proper care shall be given to the graves of the two poets and their companions, and to defend the graves against desecration or, in the case of Keats, possible removal. Of the governing board of this trust the England and American ambassadors might be members ex-officio.

Mr. Sebasti, the banker of Rome, after making inquiries, informed us that the property, which now pays six

Mrs. J. T. F. and Miss J 2.

or seven per cent. on the investment, is in litigation on account of mortgage and that it could be had for $18,000. Our idea would be to raise $25,000., distributing the subscription among the three countries, probably raising the bulk over here. We cannot yet open the subscription or publicly announce the project for fear that the price may be advanced upon us. I was in hopes that an advance of $500. or $1000. would secure the option on the property at the above price, but it seems that it is necessary for us to deposit with the court $18,000. before we can make sure that the property will be ours when the subscription is raised. I have not the slightest doubt that it will be easy to raise the amount by subscription. The problem therefore is to find some one or more persons who will advance the $18,000. as against the subscription. At the same time, even this must be done quietly, since if it is known that the amount has been advanced by a friend or friends it would, perhaps, deter some people from subscribing who otherwise would be glad to do so. I am impatient to make the announcement of the subscription, and I am therefore making efforts in several directions to obtain such an advance.

There can be no risk to anybody in making this advance, for it can be virtually a purchase, the property, as Mr. Sebasti says, already realizing a handsome interest on the investment. I should be glad if you could make any suggestion which would be of use to the cause.

We propose to establish in the rooms where Keats and Severn lived a museum which shall include all the editions of Keats and Shelley, all the portraits, either in the originals or in reproductions, that can be procured, the life mask of Keats, autographs, correspondence, etc., so that in the atmosphere of Rome, so identified with those two men, one can study at leisure the life and works of these two great English poets. As soon as the house is arranged for, I shall ask Mr. Carnegie if he does not want to furnish this library, that being in his line, but I fear he might fly the track if we asked him to advance the purchase money.

I wonder whether Mrs. Gardiner (or some other person in Boston) would not feel like standing in the breach for a year or two until the money can be had. Should the subscription lag I will undertake to get up a series of authors readings in New York in the interest of the project. You may recall that we made $4200. for the copyright cause under my management as impresario some years ago, and I believe we could approach that sum.

Faithfully yours,
[*No signature*]

Mrs. James T. Fields,
Miss Sarah Orne Jewett.

Notes

museum: The Keats-Shelly Memorial House in Rome was purchased in 1906 and opened in 1909.

For an account of the history of John Keats's grave in the old Protestant cemetery in Rome, see: "The Grave of John Keats Revisited" by Nicholas Stanley-Price, *The Keats-Shelley Review* 33:2 (2019), pp. 175-193.

eight: Johnson has inserted the asterisk here, pointing to a list of the authors at the bottom of the page: Miss Agnes Repplier, Mrs. Edith Wharton, Mrs. Lawrence Turnbull, Miss Martha Gilbert Dickinson, Herman Hapgood, James Herbert Norse, Harry Nelson Gay, and R. U. Johnson.

Several other persons are named in this letter. All are identified here in alphabetical order.

Robert Bridges: British poet and physician, Robert Seymour Bridges (1844-1930).

Mr. Carnegie: American industrialist and philanthropist, Andrew Carnegie (1836-1919).

Sidney Colvin: British critic and author, Sir Sidney Colvin (1845-1927).

Lord Crewe: Probably British politician Robert Offley Ashburton Crewe-Milnes (1858-1945).

Miss Martha Gilbert Dickinson: American poet Martha Dickinson (1866-1943), niece of Emily Dickinson.

H. Buxton Forman: British bibliographer Henry Buxton Forman (1842-1917).

Mrs. Gardiner: Probably Isabella Stewart Gardner. Key to Correspondents.

George Levinson Gower: British politician Sir George Leveson-Gower (1858-1951).

Harry Nelson Gay: American historian and author, H. Nelson Gay (1870-1932).

Norman Hapgood: American author and journalist, Norman Hapgood (1868-1937).

John Keats: British poet, John Keats (1795-1821).

James Herbert Norse: American author and poet, James Herbert Morse (1841-1923)

Miss Agnes Repplier: American poet Agnes Repplier (1855-1950).

Sir Rennell Rodd: British diplomat, poet, and politician, James Rennell Rodd (1858-1941).

Mr. Sebasti: N. Sebasti & Co. was a major international bank in Rome, established in 1893.

Severn: Joseph Severn (1793-1879) a British painter, was a friend of John Keats.

Percy Bysshe Shelley: British poet, Percy Bysshe Shelley (1792-1822).

Mr. Stedman: Probably Arthur Griffin Stedman, but possibly his father, Edmund. Key to Correspondents.

Mrs. Lawrence Turnbull: American novelist, Francesca Hubbard Litchfield Turnbull (1845-1927).

Queen Victoria: Alexandrina Victoria (1819-1901) was Queen of Great Britain (1847-1901).

Mrs. Edith Wharton: American novelist, Edith Jones Wharton (1862-1937).

A blue carbon-copy of this typescript is held in the Robert Underwood Johnson papers. Manuscripts and Archives Division. The New York Public Library. Astor, Lenox, and Tilden Foundations, v. 42.

Julia Ward Howe to Susan B. Travers

[6 Old Elm *?*]. Melville Station
Newport, R. I.
July 14th 1903.

My dear Mifs Travers,

It will give me great pleasure to lunch with you on Thursday 16th, and to meet Mary Jewett. I hope that she will bring good news of

[*Page 2*]

dear Sarah.

[Your's *so spelled*] sincerely,
Julia Ward Howe.

Note

The manuscript of this letter is held by the Houghton Library of Harvard University: Sarah Orne Jewett Correspondence I, Letters to Sarah Orne Jewett. Howe, Julia (Ward) 1819-1910. 8 letters; 1901-1905 & [n.d.] (103). This transcription is from a photocopy held by the Maine Women Writer's Collection, University of New England, Letters from Sarah Orne Jewett, 1875-1890, Box 2, Folder 99, Burton Trafton Jewett Research Collection.

Sarah Orne Jewett to Charles Eliot Norton

[*Begin letterhead*]
South Berwick, Maine
[*End letterhead*]

July 21st
[*1903*]*

Dear Mr Norton

You were very kind to send me this treasure of a letter, and a delightful book which I had seen some account of — in the Athenaeum perhaps — and had wished to see — I am so glad to have this for awhile with your notes — Lately I have been taking great pleasure in a new small edition of Campion's* poems — Which often seem to be nearer music than poetry! — and

[*Page 2*]

not, [I imagine *corrected*] very far from the interest of the new-old world of these — I thought of you ^while I was reading them^ and wished that I could ask you many things — Indeed —indeed I wish that I could come to Ashfield! — but I can only have the pleasure of your wishing me there. [*deletion*] I have to be very quiet, not even reading much, and very small causes whether of fret or pleasure bring back the attacks of pain in my head and disable me for days together. The doctors speak of some damage

[*Page 3*]

or laceration — as they call it, that happened inside so poor a head at the time of its [accident *corrected*] == I often wish that it were a nice accessible finger and could be mended with court plaster and wear a decent lot of black kid — a proper sort of injury that could be dealt with in other ways than by time! It was a very dark and tiresome day yesterday when your letter came — —

I hope that the voyage will do dear Sally* good and that you will have her in Ashfield very soon. I was wondering if I could not see her — but I [shall *corrected*] wait with patience — she

[*Page 4*]

will long to hurry to Ashfield (as I do!) — I have missed her sadly and I could not ^even^ answer her last letter. You must give her my love and my welcome — and tell her that dear Mrs. Fields seems to be very well now, except for a little less strength, which robs her of such long early morning walks as she likes best — She has had a friend or two coming and going almost every week — This is a great comfort to my heart as you will know.

With my love to Margaret* and my best thanks to you my dear friend. I am yours most affectionately

Sarah O. Jewett

Notes

1903: Judging from Jewett's report on her poor health, this letter almost certainly was composed during the first year after her carriage accident of September 1902.

Campion's: British composer and poet, Thomas Campion (1567-1620). Key to correspondents.

Sally: Sara Norton. Key to Correspondents.

Margaret: Norton's youngest daughter, Margaret (b. 1870).

The manuscript of this letter is held by the Houghton Library of Harvard University, Cambridge, MA; Charles Eliot Norton Papers, MS Am 1088, Box: 21 (3930-3948).

Sarah Orne Jewett to Frances Rollins Morse

Wednesday
[*22 July 1903*]*
[*Begin letterhead*]
South Berwick.
Maine.
[*End letterhead*]

Dear Fanny

The catalogue* has been delightful. I was at it again yesterday. Mrs. Fields must show you a gold coin of Cyprus that we both love when you go to see her. I know just enough to take immense pleasure in this handbook — nobody I

[*Page 2*]

do believe, would have thought to send it but you! — This is only half a note for you — the rest is to send love to your mother* and [to *corrected*] ask her if she doesn't think I am just like Miss Louisa Musgrove in Persuasion*

[*Page 3*]

when she tumbled off that Cobb at Lyme — Only there seem to be no Captains ^(, R.N.)^ to make gay the scene! (There* used to be plenty of captains in Berwick in old times, of the other sort, plain "merchantmen", but no less enchanting to me. With much love always

Sarah

Notes

1903: Penciled in another hand, top left of page 1: July 21 — 1903. This cannot be exactly correct, for 21 July fell on a Tuesday in 1903. In the absence of any other evidence, I have accepted this date, correcting it to 22 July.

catalogue: What catalog Morse has sent Jewett is not yet known. It would appear to be an international catalog of rare or historical coins.

mother: Harriet Lee Morse. See Frances Morse in Key to Correspondents.

Persuasion: *Persuasion* (1817) by British novelist Jane Austen (1775-1817). In that novel, the foolish Louisa Musgrove is seriously injured when she playfully falls off a wall, expecting a Royal Navy captain to catch her. Jewett would have liked a captain to catch her the previous September, when she was thrown from a carriage and seriously injured.

(there: Jewett does not close this parenthesis.

The manuscript of this letter is held by the Houghton Library of Harvard University, Cambridge, MA. bMS Am 1743.1 Sarah Orne Jewett Additional Correspondence II. Letters from Sarah Orne Jewett, Box 4 (122).

Edward William Garnett to Sarah Orne Jewett

The Cearne
Kent Hatch
№ Edenbridge
Kent.*

July 22. 1903

Dear Madam,

Messrs Duckworth have placed in my hands your letter of June 25th. Years ago I had, as 'reader' to T. Fisher Unwin, the pleasure of advising him to publish over here "The Country of the Pointed Firs",* & this year I was very pleased

[*Page 2*]

to see an opportunity present itself for "The King of Folly Island's" introduction to English readers.

I have had the temerity to write a slight critical estimate* of your stories, which was printed in The Academy of July 11th. Probably some friend has sent you a copy, but I am asking Messrs Duckworth to forward

[*Page 3*]

it to you.

You will see that I have spoken of "thirty short stories" in my paper. I should much like to see some day these thirty stories, published by Messrs Duckworth, in 3 volumes* — if the [*unrecognized word*] could be arranged. Is there any chance of Messrs Houghton Mifflin preparing such an edition on your side? for

[*Page 4*]

in the present arrangement of the stories, one has to content oneself with examining, weighing, & laying aside a good deal of 'material' which I think obscures your highest quality as artist.

Pray pardon the impertinence of these observations. I am such an admirer of "The Country of the Pointed Firs" & of the thirty stories in question that I should

[*Page 5*]

like, later on, to send you an approximate list of the contents to a Selected Edition, if the idea pleased you.

Believe me
yours very truly
Edward Garnett

Notes

Kent: This return address appears on a page with a deleted letterhead. The letterhead reads:

DUCKWORTH & Co., Publishers
Telegrams: "DUCTARIUS, LONDON."
Cable Address: "GERWADUCK, LONDON."
Telephone 3423 Central
3. HENRIETTA STREET
COVENT GARDEN, W.C.

Pointed Firs: Garnett mentions two Jewett volumes, *The King of Folly Island* (1888) and *The Country of the Pointed Firs* (1896).

estimate: "Miss Sarah Orne Jewett's Tales," *Academy and Literature* 65 (July 11, 1903): 40-41. Reprinted in Richard Cary, *Appreciation of Sarah Orne Jewett*.

volumes: Worldcat lists only one Jewett publication by Duckworth & Company: *The King of Folly Island and Other People* (1903).

The manuscript of this letter is held by the Houghton Library of Harvard University: Sarah Orne Jewett Correspondence I, Letters to Sarah Orne Jewett. Garnett, Edward. 1868-1937. 2 letters; 1903-1905. (74). This transcription is from a photocopy held by the Maine Women Writer's Collection, University of New England, Letters from Sarah Orne Jewett, 1875-1890, Box 2, Folder 99, Burton Trafton Jewett Research Collection.

Sarah Wyman Whitman to Sarah Orne Jewett
Fragment

August 2, 1903.

Dear old fellow, I live in a semi-detached condition, and do or do not as my demon bids, having an almost fierce predetermination to do as nearly as I can "what seems best." The result, if I dare speak of results at all, is that I keep a little work going, fling an occasional small sop to the social Cerberus,* read a little (which I have not done for many years), write only when I can't help it because that nerve seems the most "chawed up" of all, and pray to be forgiven! No wonder that under these conditions my hope of heaven seems small. . . .

Notes

Cerberus: In Greek mythology, a three-headed, dragon-tailed dog that guarded the entrance to Hades.

This transcription appears in *Letters*, Sarah Wyman Whitman. Cambridge, MA: Riverside Press, 1907, "Letters to Sarah Orne Jewett: 1882-1903," pp. 61-109.

Sarah Orne Jewett to Sarah Wyman Whitman

Tuesday August 4th [*1903*]*
[*Begin letterhead*]
South Berwick, Maine
[*End letterhead*]

Dear old fellow

Who should drive up to this door yesterday but old Helen!* — Mary had gone to the Junction to meet Theodore at the express train and Helen hopped out of one car — he from another — and was promptly sent afoot across Fife's lane to avail himself of the trolley car. Helen meant to walk up to the village, and she was amazed to find Mary waiting — I was amazed to

[*Page 2*]

see a smart hat — when Timmy* and I were expecting a plain straw hat as we sat at the window. She was just as you said, and had one of those days of looking quite splendid (that's not the word but we have often speaked together of the moments.) And travelled north by the afternoon express: it did this dull heart good to see her, and to hear about you and the Mexican drawn-work,* and a quiet hour such

[*Page 3*]

as was to be long treasured. I had a sense of being replete with unanswered questions as soon as she had gone, — I begin to feel a little like my poor Joanna on ~~the~~ Shellheap Island* but please forgive the allusion. I have always seen my story people after they are written, so here's me! I always love to remember that you liked that chapter, and wrote the dearest letter ----

I had a great pleasure in Mr Garnett's*

[*Page 4*]

paper in the Academy lately. The least significant paragraphs were copied into the Tribune = but one does so like to have somebody (who knows) speak seriously of ones work and stick fast to a point of view. He liked the Hiltons Holiday* which I always call your story because of ^kind^ words.

The whole thing made one feel as if perhaps the old inkbottle might be needed again, after all, one of those days, but it is strange how all that strange machinery* that writes, seems broken and confused — one ought not to expect to write forever

[*Page 5*]

but I seem never to be thinking about anything now = it's very dull! -----

Yesterday my dear old uncle* came for a visit and I stop now and then as I write to hear Theodore's loud discoursing voice — they talk about college and the medical profession as if they were exactly the same age — one twenty-four this day and the other eighty last week, and not a bit the matter with either body or mind but a sad deafness. I love his dear gentle ways — last

[*Page 6*]

night one of T's compeers (a charming young fellow — but caught in the nets of a poor foolish little bride) came ^up^ here from the shore — when they were saying good night I heard the boy's [*deleted word*] voice and then Uncle Will's "Good night, Sir!" like an old Virginian. [The *corrected*] ^tone^ was enough to make that sort of boy feel suddenly as if he had gone from private to Captain — I could hear it all down in the hall, and somehow — perhaps it was the Southern touch of

[*Page 7*]

it! made me think of you.

— I should love to get you a pair of Rocky mountain ponies used to steep inclines — so that you could 'rise' Thunderbolt Hill* at will! Dear A. F. has such beautiful times with you this summer, and I hear about you. She writes very dear letters that give one a sense of being with her as one reads. I shall try again for a few days visit by and by, but I dread the trains still almost too much. Dear fellow I think of you a great

[*Page 8*]

deal. I pray heaven to make you stronger — not overdoing is the only real tonic! — So no more at present from yours with love and pride S. O. J.

The garden is so nice — [*deleted word*] old fashioned indeed with pink hollyhocks and tall blue larkspurs — you might make a sketch with [but *?*] slight trouble, with figures of ^old^ ladies wearing caps in the long walks.

[*Up the right margin of page 8*]

I seem to [*deleted word*] confuse your art with Mr. Abbey's!!*

Notes

1903: Colby Library archivists have assigned the date "c. 1903," and this probably is correct, since Jewett seems to have read recently Edward Garnett's July 1903 article.

Old Helen: Helen Bigelow Merriman. Key to Correspondents.

Timmy: A Jewett family dog.

Mexican drawn-work: This allusion is obscure.

Shellheap Island: See chapters 13 and 15 in Jewett's *The Country of the Pointed Firs* (1896).

Mr. Garnett's: Edward Garnet. Key to Correspondents.

Jewett refers to " Books Too Little Known: Miss Sarah Orne Jewett's Tales," *Academy and Literature* 65 (July 11, 1903): 40-41, collected in *Friday Nights* (New York, 1922). The article was reprinted in Richard Cary, *Appreciation of Sarah Orne Jewett*. Cary noted: "In Garnett's opinion Miss Jewett 'ranked second only to Hawthorne in her interpretation of the spirit of New England soil'."

the Hilton's Holiday: Jewett's story appeared in *Century* 46 (September 1893), 772-778 and was collected in *The Life of Nancy* (1895).

strange machinery: Jewett had been unable to write fiction since the September 1902 carriage accident that permanently ended her professional writing career.

old uncle: Dr. William Gilman Perry. Key to Correspondents.

Thunderbolt Hill: A.F. is Annie Fields. Key to Correspondents. This hill is the location of her summer home in Manchester by the Sea, MA.

Mr. Abbey's: Edwin Austin Abbey (1852-1911). Jewett reviewed Abbey's *Old English Songs* in *The Book Buyer* 5,11 (Dec 1, 1888), pp. 466-8.

This letter is held by Colby College Special Collections, Waterville, Maine: JEWE.1. It was originally transcribed, edited and annotated by

Richard Cary for *Sarah Orne Jewett Letters*. New transcription and notes.

Sarah Orne Jewett to Harriet Jackson Lee Morse*

Tuesday August [*Unrecognized number*]
[*1903*]*

[*Begin letterhead*]
South Berwick, Maine.

[*End letterhead*]

Dearest Mrs Morse

I had an envelope all directed and was going to write you about your first dear letter, when the second came this morning! I feel as if we had had two nice talks now, and I was delighted to hear how beautifully the Medea* went off. I wish that I could have seen

[*Page 2*]

Gwen* and the others.

You are so kind to think of me, as I am getting on in the same slow fashion — the bad attacks of pain in my head come much less often — but the last one was pretty bad and lasted longer than seemed at all reasonable. However I creep a little way up hill in spite of everything, and begin to look forward to autumn weather, and having a free foot sometime or other. It is

[*Page 3*]

very nice to hear of all the pleasant things at the shore — and to know that dear Mrs. Fields is really so much better. Yes, I did see the paper in the Academy and I have had a delightful letter from Mr. Garnett* who wrote it, though I had meant to write to him first! It gave me a real pleasure — one likes to have such a long row of books { — } There must [be *corrected*] some dull ones for every

[*Page 4*]

reader. I was so glad that he liked the Hiltons Holiday* among the stories. Mrs. Whitman always liked that and I always remember how kind you and Mr. Morse were about the Marsh Island!* Give my love to Fanny, and to all [you *so it appears*] children at home. D[r] Morse was so kind in knowing that I cant write as much as I wish — but I do like to write to you. I wish that I could have you sit with me some afternoon. It is very prim and old fashioned with long walks, and many

[*Up the left margin and across the top margin of page 1*]

pink hollyhocks, and sweet peas and bright things for edgings round the kitchen garden. No four o'clocks this year but going to be next! Yours with much love

Sarah

Notes

Morse: See Frances (Fanny) Rollins Morse in Key to Correspondents.

1903: This was the year of the publication of Edward Garnett's paper, "Miss Sarah Orne Jewett's Tales," *Academy and Literature* 65 (July 11, 1903): 40-41. Reprinted in Richard Cary, *Appreciation of Sarah Orne Jewett*. That summer Jewett continued suffering the effects of her September 1902 accident.

Medea: Presumably, this was a production of the ancient Greek tragedy, *Medea* by Euripides (c. 480- c. 406), or perhaps an adaptation.

Family Search shows that Frances Rollins Morse was the sister of Dr. Henry Lee Morse (1852-1929). He married Jessie Frances Lizzie Scott (1860-1909). Their only known child, Harriet Morse's granddaughter, was Gwendolyn (1886-1968). It appears that Gwen Morse may have been a performer; she would have turned 17 in 1903.

Hilton's Holiday: Jewett's "The Hilton's Holiday" appeared in *Century Magazine* (46:772-778), September 1893, and was collected in *The Life of Nancy*, 1895.

Marsh Island: Jewett's 1885 novel, *A Marsh Island*.

D[r] Morse: Mrs. Morse's son, Gwen's father.

The manuscript of this letter is held by the Houghton Library of Harvard University, Cambridge, MA. bMS Am 1743.1 (123) Box 4, II. Letters from Sarah Orne Jewett.

Sarah Orne Jewett to William Dean Howells

South Berwick, Maine, Tuesday, August 11th.
[*1903*]*

Dear Mr. Howells

Last night I heard that this year's Ashfield dinner is to be the last! — I have been wondering with all my might if it would not be possible for some of us outside that little town to whose great citizens we owe so much, could not send some

sign of our thanks to those who have loved their country well enough to speak the Truth — welcome or unwelcome. Perhaps a "Paper" with some names signed? I think, among women, of Mrs. Howe and Mrs. Agassiz and Mrs. Fields and Mrs. Warner and Alice Longfellow.* I am sure that all these would like to have their names stand for many others whom we could not reach. The dinner is on the 20th and there is not much time but could not you and Mr. Page* think of a dozen others? Dr. Hyde* of Bowdoin College I am sure of — we could send a few telegrams and write a few letters. I wish that I could go down to see you today but alas, I have to "keep inside our own fence" pretty carefully, as they say to small children.

Twice I have been at the Ashfield dinner and so this high plot comes straight from my heart. I am sure that you will feel all that one possibly can about our dear Mr. Norton — but after all, you may not think It wise, or best to try to do anything at so late a day. Please give my love to Mrs. Howells and Pilla.*

Yours ever sincerely,
S. O. JEWETT.

Notes

1906: Clara Marburg Kirk, in *W. D. Howells and Art in his Time* (pp. 317-8) includes an account of the last Ashfield Dinner, which in part celebrated Charles Eliot Norton's 80th birthday, on 23 November 1907. Norton hosted the Ashfield dinners annually for many years, and they were noted for intellectual and artistic exchanges among the numerous illustrious guests.

This would suggest that this letter was composed in August 1907, but that is problematic for 11 August did not fall on Tuesday that year. Furthermore, Jewett names Elizabeth Cabot Cary Agassiz as one interested in signing an honorary paper; Agassiz died in June 1907. 11 August fell on Tuesday in 1903. That was near the anniversary of Jewett's September 1902 carriage accident from which she continued to suffer serious effects.

See Sara Norton in Key to Correspondents.

Howe ... Agassiz .... Fields ... Warner ... Longfellow: Julia Ward Howe, Elizabeth Cabot Cary Agassiz, Annie Adams Fields, Alice Longfellow. Key to Correspondents.

Page: Walter Hines Page. Key to Correspondents.

Hyde: William De Witt Hyde. Key to Correspondents.

Pilla: Howells' daughter. See Howells in Key to Correspondents.

The typescript of this letter is held by the Houghton Library of Harvard University, Cambridge, MA. bMS Am 1743.1 Sarah Orne Jewett Additional Correspondence II. Letters from Sarah Orne Jewett, Box 4 (122).

William Dean Howells to Sarah Orne Jewett

Kittery Point
Aug. 13, 1903.

Dear Miss Jewett:

I will write a letter to Norton,* and I wish I had soul or body enough to prompt the others you mention, or to set a Round Robin* flying amongst them, for it ought not to be left to you. But my soul and body, though interested in the same objects, are like the two unions of striking carpenters,* and wont work together. I have done such a lot of futile writing this sum=

[*Page 2*]

=mer that I cannot bear the thought of anything wise or worthy; that is the worst of futility; it corrupts.

But I will write my own letter to Norton, and [do *?*] you yours; and a little later I am coming to see you, now that the trolley has made us next door neighbors. I heard of you from Miss Grace Norton* the other day when I was visiting her in Cambridge, and I hope that by the time I come it will not be so far from your garden end back to your house.*

Mrs. Howells joins me in love; and Pilla,* if she were not in New York would too.

Yours sincerely,
W. D. Howells.

Notes

Norton: Charles Eliot Norton. See Jewett to Howells of 11 August 1903.

Round Robin: A circulating letter that is passed within a group of recipients.

striking carpenters: There was such a strike involving rival unions of New York carpenters in May 1903.

Grace Norton: Sister of Charles Eliot Norton. Key to Correspondents.

house: Howells refers to Jewett's slow and never complete recovery from her carriage accident of 3 September 1902.

Pilla: Howells's daughter. Key to Correspondents.

The manuscript of the letter is held by the Houghton Library of Harvard University. Howells, William Dean, 1837-1920. 16 letters to Sarah Orne Jewett; 1875-1908. Sarah Orne Jewett correspondence, 1861-1930. MS Am 1743 (105).

Sarah Orne Jewett to Charles Eliot Norton

August 19th

[*Begin letterhead*]

South Berwick, Maine

[*End letterhead*]

[*1903*]*

Dear Mr. Norton

I shall send you your Traherne's* Poems in a day or two, and keep mine with joy and delight — You cannot think what a pleasure the book has been — one likes Mr. Dobell and his honest pleasure and enthusiasm so much too! ---- I thought that you would not mind if I copied your notes and marks into my copy — I should really miss them so much —

The poems are curiously interesting

[*Page 2*]

in their anticipations — sometimes one comes upon a simpler Donne* to begin with: and it grows more and more clear that not only [men *?*] of Traherne's own day talked with him or had the written poems to pass from hand to hand as he had theirs, but in our day so many men have caught their echoes, their "visionary" gleam.* One thing is most curious to me; how much the prose passages are like certain things of Richard Jefferies* — He is a very tiresome person to me, often, — too much given to his

[*Page 3*]

inventions — if one reads him too long, but he does make a reader run away to the fields to look and think for himself and there is a wonderful bit about lying on a hill top and looking up into the sky —

This is too busy a week for you to read long letters, so I shall be done when I have said that all my thoughts seem to fly to Ashfield — Oh if I could only be there! I shall not say this is the 'last dinner'* — two dinners and the high words spoken and that place shall be new every year for one guest — and I can only say with my love that what you have tried to do has been done — You have set many a man and woman nearer to the right, and you have given us the

[*Page 4*]

story of knowing that some great citizens not only saw the truth* but loved their country enough to tell it, and to strengthen the weak hearted. It was worth while — if only to make history read aright and ^[*deletion*] show that^ the race of truest patriots and noblest teachers of the truths did not fail in these our times.

Thank Sally* for her postcard and this letter carries much love to dear and kind friends! I wish that Margaret* would send me one of the newspapers — is it the Republican that gives a long report ---

Yours with much affectionate thanks for the book

Sarah O. Jewett

Notes

1903: This is one of several letters that Jewett exchanged in 1903 about reading the poet, Thomas Traherne, all of which seem to have been written shortly after the appearance of Bertram Dobell's edition of Traherne's poems.

Traherne's: Jewett refers to British poet and Neoplatonist theologian, Thomas Traherne (1636-1674). *The Poetical Works of Thomas Traherne* (1903) was edited by Bertram Dobell, who provided an introduction. See also Wikipedia.

Donne: British poet John Donne (1572-1631).

"visionary" gleam: Jewett refers to "Ode: Intimations of Immortality" by British poet, William Wordsworth (1770-1850).

Richard Jefferies: British nature writer, John Richard Jefferies (1848-1887).

dinner: See Jewett to Howells of 11 August 1903.

truth: Norton had been particularly vocal around this time in his support for the American Anti-Imperialist League, which had arisen in response to the Spanish-American War, in which the U.S. acquired former Spanish colonies.

Sally: Sara Norton. Key to Correspondents.

Margaret: Norton's youngest daughter, Margaret (b. 1870).

The manuscript of this letter is held by the Houghton Library of Harvard University,

Cambridge, MA; Charles Eliot Norton Papers, MS Am 1088, Box: 21 (3930-3948).

Sarah Wyman Whitman to Sarah Orne Jewett

[*20 August 1903*]*

Darling, this is the latest from Isabel's* official [*unrecognized word*, Mother *?*]! So I found it {.} Yes: though dear Coolidge's* little [fine *?*] writing is now a strange puzzle to read.

I guess I had a good half hour with A.F. last [Saturday *corrected*], for she looked so well & gay & had such Good news to tell that we drank almost

[*Page 2*]

as many cups of tea as [Mr. Sandle]* pipes! [*Unrecognized name*] drew buckets of water! And I guess you was going to do some choice behaviors before long. -----

I send this least word because I have just counted the "addressed envelopes" to find that 73 must be filled at once, or I perish!

Thine
Sw

Notes

20 August 1903: The envelope associated with this letter was cancelled on 20 August 1903 and addressed to Jewett in South Berwick.

Isabel's: Which Isabel Whitman means is not yet known. A likely candidate is Isabella Stuart Gardner. Key to Correspondents.

Coolidge's: Sarah Chauncey Woolsey, who wrote under the name Susan Coolidge. Key to Correspondents.

Mr. Sandle: The transcription is uncertain and the reference not yet known.

The manuscript of this letter is held by the Houghton Library of Harvard University. Whitman, Sarah (Wyman) 1842-1904. 92 letters; [1884]-[1903] & [n.d.] Jewett, Sarah Orne, 1849-1909. Sarah Orne Jewett additional correspondence, 1868-1930. MS Am 1743.1 -107.

Sarah Orne Jewett to Sarah Wyman Whitman

[*Begin letterhead*]
South Berwick, Maine
[*End letterhead*]

Saturday
[*22 August 1903*]*

Dear old fellow

I was not unmindful of the Boon of Coolidge's* letters — the last one was a nice Coolidge indeed but the first was all Runkles and Lolly-Dollys, and I felt as if she would never be the same Coolidge again after that private car business — and Little Yardleys* going off like hot cakes. [Jennie *?*] must look so resigned at these weddings, with her bairns being [respectif *?*] like the [love *?*] and Tom a rector — I think that Tom is

[*Page 2*]

as Theodore would say, a scene in his high church cut and ^the^ sanctity of shape in his collars and opinions. Oh what a world with Yardleys in it — they make you feel so crowded when you think of them, and Jennie's smile is like a dog-day with no wind from the sea. (Now I feel quite cheered up!) And I am reading Causeries du Lundi* a portion each day, right straight along ^like [*unrecognized word*]^ as I never did before; same 's Mrs. Lawrence*

[*Page 3*]

did — and I hope in time to have a well furnished mind. [Were *?*] there ever such enchanting pages to read ^again and again^? — — This reminds me that I had such a dear visit from Mifs [Fanny *?*] Chapman* the other day with "Leila" and her dear* little girl! You must know that child — you really must see her before she goes away! Walpurga!* and we are such friends already. I really long to see her again — They have had an anxious summer but she has been such a brightness. I remember

[*Page 4*]

you speaking of an evening at Aldie or somewhere when all their profiles were like large fine cameos — this small thing is [*deletion*] like a little bright pink topaz among such. Would you write pretty soon and just happen to say in the letter that Leila's name is of German nobility — I cant remember anything beyond von! You will find that there is a place in my memory where the shutters are up and things dark and cobwebby inside — (not where [*deletion*] ^impressions^ about Yardleys are !!) I was so glad

[*Page 5*]

to hear about you from Mary — who got home yesterday from a most lovely visit. Now I mustn't write any more or that little mill in the back of my head will begin to pound me into ----- but I am going to begin the second year pretty soon with what patience one can muster. I make you a little promise dear as I write this: And dont mind the seventy-three letters — some persons die (not Yardleys) and I have

[*Page 6*]

got three heaps in different places and a peck basketful in the long-entry closet and the world goes on just exactly as well. = perhaps one ought to say 'that's the worst of it!* Let me know when Mr. Franklin* is going to have the sale — The other day I saw a table cloth of his on a little table in the breakfast room — so pretty and I had bought it in haste and tucked it away ^just^ before he came to the fair in the evening! I could have weppit, as you say.

Yours always S. O. J.

Notes

1903: See Whitman to Jewett of 20 August 1903.

The Houghton folder in which this letter is included has been scrambled. It contains a number of envelopes, some of which are associated with letters in the folder. There is an envelope addressed to Whitman at Old Place, Beverly Farms, MA, cancelled in South Berwick on 29 August 1903. If that envelope belongs with this letter, then it may have been composed a week later than 22 August.

Coolidge's: Sarah Chauncey Woolsey. Key to Correspondents.

It is not certain what Jewett means in referring to Runkles and Lolly-Dollys. Lucia Isabella Runkle (1844-1922) was a well-known editorialist.

Little Yardleys: Jewett refers to Woolsey's sister, Jane (Jennie) Andrews Woolsey (1836-1908) who married Rev. Henry Albert Yardley (1834-1882). In the 1880 census, at FamilySearch, they had 5 children at home, four of whom were daughters. Their only son was Rev. Thomas Henry Yardley (1869-1933). He married Eva Louise Thorn in Philadelphia in 1905. At the time this letter was written, there seem to have been no "little Yardleys," all of Coolidge's nieces being grown adults, born before 1880.

Causeries du Lundi: "Monday Chats," was a collection of critical and biographical essays by French literary critic, Charles Augustin Sainte-Beuve (1804-1869). Wikipedia.

Mrs. Lawrence: Robert Mainfort and Mary Kwas (University of Arkansas) identify Mrs. Lawrence as Elizabeth Chapman Lawrence (1829-1905), one of Whitman's correspondents. See *E.L., The Bread Box Papers: a biography of Elizabeth Chapman Lawrence*, (1983) by Helen H. Gemmill. She was married to the diplomat, Timothy Bigelow Lawrence (d. 1869). Her home was the Aldie Mansion in Doylestown, PA.

Fanny Chapman ... "Leila": Find a Grave lists Walpurga von Isarborn von Friesen (1893-1975) as the daughter of Baron Hubert Fidler von Isarborn and Elizabeth Chapman Mercer von Isarborn (1858-1919). About Elizabeth, Find a Grave says:

> Elizabeth "Lela" Mercer, the little known sister of Henry Chapman Mercer. Lela and brothers Henry and William grew up in the mid-1800s in Doylestown, the grandchildren of Bucks County [PA] Judge Henry Chapman. Grandson Henry [*1856-1930, Wikipedia*], an archaeologist and founder of the Bucks County Historical Society, built the 9-story Mercer Museum in Doylestown as well as his home a few blocks away, awe-inspiring Fonthill Castle. William, a successful sculptor, constructed Aldie, a Tudor-styled mansion that replaced the original Aldie villa just down the hill from Fonthill. Sister Lela married a European baron at Aldie and moved permanently to Europe." (excerpt from "Rediscovering Lela Mercer").

Miss Fanny Chapman should be Frances "Fanny" Chapman (1846-1923), half-sister to Lela/Leila's mother, Mary Rebecca Chapman Mercer.

Note that Elizabeth Chapman Lawrence also was a resident of Aldie. Find a Grave identifies her as Lela's aunt, full sister of her mother. If Jewett is speaking, then, of Mrs. Von Isarborn, it's odd that she calls her "Mifs," but on the whole the details of her letter seem to correspond well with this group of people.

dear: This word is underlined three times.

Walpurga: Wikipedia identifies Saint Walpurga as an 8th-century English missionary to Germany and also Maria Antonia Walpurgis (1724-1780) as a princess of Bavaria. Presumably, Jewett saw Leila Chapman as related to the princess, though it is not clear that she really was. However Baron von Isarborn was from Germany, and the family resided in Bavaria. Walpurga von Friesen's Find a Grave page includes a photograph of her.

Mr. Franklin: The fair probably is a pre-Christmas fund-raising sale at Trinity Church (Episcopal) in Boston, where Whitman was an active member. Mr. Franklin, mentioned in other letters as a fellow member, has not yet been identified. Whitman may refer to one of her correspondents, Elizabeth Franklin, who was a member of the Bible class Whitman taught at Trinity Church in Boston. In a letter of 14 June 1890, Whitman writes to Miss Franklin about her father's health.

The manuscript of this letter is held by the Houghton Library of Harvard University, Cambridge, MA. bMS Am 1743 Box 6, Item 277.

Sarah Orne Jewett to Sylvia Hathaway Watson Emerson

Saturday July [*August*] 29th [*1903*]*
[*Begin letterhead*]
South Berwick Maine
[*End letterhead*]

My dear Sylvia

I have thought 'ever-so-many' times about [writing *corrected*] to you and said to myself that I didn't know how to direct the letter, and the great thought has now occurred to my still greater Mind that I could send the letter to Milton!*

You see what's left of your friend, but I can truly say that you are welcome to the affectionate residue! — I have thought so often of you and dear Mr. Emerson{.}* I wished that I could see you

[*Page 2*]

both, shouldn't we sit down happy and idle together, and I'd sharpen the pencils if you two would undertake to sharpen my wits a little. Next week it will be a year since I tried to go through to China head-first and showed such a lack of judgment in choosing a hard road for the starting place. I am not good for much yet but a concussion of the brain doesn't seem to impair the affections, though it may have an effect upon the walk and conversation.

[*Page 3*]

Just one word to carry you both my love and Mary's too. Ask W.R.E. if he doesn't wish we could have gone to Wells to the 250th anniversary — to see all the Littlefields and Hatches and Perkinses in the World!!* Poor old Wells with the long sandy road and carrot crops & blue fringed gentians in the fields where the sand shows through the grass. I always like to think of it! — I used to go there "doctoring" — and there was always a ^big, cheerful^ fisherman or sea cap'n [browned *corrected*] with sea tan, and a thin blue-white wife going off in a decline! This showed the salt water itself a better climate than its adjacent town of Wells! Goodbye dear friend

[*Up left margin of page 1*]

with love from S. O. J.

[*Down from left across the top margin of page 1*]

Our garden is lovely this year — all full of tiger lilies just now, round the edges and the row of poplar has grown nearly as high as yours in the wet weather.

[*Up the right margin of page 1*]

Great year for the glads etc!

Notes

1903: It is virtually certain that Jewett has misdated her letter. July 29 in 1903 was not a Saturday, but August 29 was. She mentions in the letter that a week after her writing is the anniversary of the carriage accident of 3 September 1902, when she says she attempted to go through to China. She mentions the Wells, Maine 250th anniversary celebration as having happened. It took place 26 August 1903. See "Anonymous Note" below.

Milton: At this time, the Emersons lived in Milton, MA.

Mr. Emerson: William Ralph Emerson, or W. R. E.. See Sylvia H. W. Emerson in Key to Correspondents.

250th anniversary .... Littlefields and Hatches and Perkinses: A program for the 250th anniversary of the founding of the town of Wells, Maine, was available for purchase on E-Bay in spring 2017. According to that program, the event took place on 26 August 1903. There was a "Historical Parade, giving Pictorial Illustrations of Events in the History of Wells. This was followed by evening exercises in Ogunquit: a band concert, oratory and fireworks. Among the speakers was the Honorable Charles E. Littlefield. He also was the chairman of the 'Display of Fireworks'." Charles Edgar Littlefield (1851-1915) was a United States Representative from Maine. In 1903, he was in the middle of the final of his four terms The manuscript of this letter is held by the Library of Congress in the Owen Wister Papers, 1829-1966, MSS46177, Box 19. With this letter in its Library of Congress folder appear two related items, not written by Jewett.

Anonymous note about the following letter

It seems clear that this writer is mistaken about the date of the letter. As the second item shows, there is reason to be confused about this. The author also is mistaken in identifying Annie Adams Fields as a daughter of Charles Francis Adams, Sr. (1807-1886), as she would have been were she a sister of:

John Quincy Adams II (September 22, 1833 – August 14, 1894)
Charles Francis Adams Jr. (May 27, 1835 – May 20, 1915)
Henry Brooks Adams (February 16, 1838 – March 27, 1918).

In fact, her father was Zabdiel Boylston Adams, Sr. (d. 1855).

* * *

Jewett, Sara Orne
S. Berwick Maine
— Sylvia Emerson
29 July 1891,

Note in a delightful characteristic letter to S.E. who sends it with a note to Owen Wister.

Sara Orne Jewett wrote beautiful [thin *?*] silverpoint stories of New England people & places. The Mrs. Fields she alludes to was Mrs James T. Fields (Annie Adams)

[*Page 2*]

wife of the publisher & sister of John ^[*unrecognized word*]^, Henry & Charles [*unrecognized word*] Adams, herself a poet & Writer of articles and criticism.

Sylvia Emerson to Owen Wister — enclosing the above Jewett Letter

This letter seems to be dated in 91, but if it really does refer to Jewett's "brave letter" above, that date must be incorrect. One possibility is that the number "91" which appears on this page refers to a post-office box number rather than to the year of the letter.

* * *

[C L Allerton *?*] P. O. Box

Sept 2d 91

[*Text apparently added at an angle beneath the date*]

How lovely the [*unrecognized word*] are.

Dear Owen,

I send you Sarah Jewetts letter which will give you her news & Mrs Fields. Don't try to answer this{.} You must be busy up to yr eyes — I thot you might like to read this brave letter. My [*unrecognized word*] gains by slow degrees. Affly yours,

Sylvia W. E.

I wrote Mother about the crow{.}

Helen Cross Knight to Sarah Orne Jewett

[29 August 1903]

You dear one I hope you {are} gaining fast by this time. How much you are in my thoughts — and other people's — From a letter just received from Down East,* she writes, "Every thing [is intended in ?] this region of light and shade and Pointed Firs brings to mind Mifs Jewett's idyllic story which I never tire of reading or quoting. The Country of the Pointed Firs,* a gem among books"

[*Page 2*]

and this she but echoes and re-echoes a thousand other "shes", who are reveling still in your "balmy and beautiful words — "

I wrote thus far the other day, my dear under a passionate desire to see you and to know that you were fast getting better — then a multitude of little things came up to be attended to — among them a bigger one which was going to Boston,

[*Page 3*]

we did [deletion not ?] on Thursday{,} Susie* and I, to welcome Kitty and Marie home, or rather to our shores, for it is to be but a flying visit — Marie wrote from shipboard that her mother was miserable and the weather during the voyage miserabler — They are at the Berkeley* — where they are to be till Thursday afternoon when they come to the Pillows* here.

I hope they will like the Pillows, for it is near us and a pleasant neighborhood and so near that if she can walk

[*Page 4*]

out at all, she can walk to our door — Kitty looks very pretty, but is infirm and full of rheumatism — It is hard to be bright and charming under such conditions, yet she seems so — Marie quite delightful — [Grace ?] is to come to me and see her — so we shall be together — Kitty and I are all who are left to remember grandpa's —

Kitty's almost first inquiry was for you — I do not feel Mary is at home, is she?

Love, love, love from H. C. K
Aug 29 — 1903 —
No summer ---

Notes

Down East: This term is somewhat confusing to those residing outside New England. It refers here to the coast of Maine, though more generally it includes the Canadian maritime provinces.

The Country of the Pointed Firs: Jewett's 1896 novel.

Susie: Almost certainly, this is Knight's niece, Susan Jameson Jewett, daughter of Knight's brother-in-law, Elisha Jewett (first cousin of Jewett's father), by his first marriage to his cousin Sarah Orne Jewett (1820-1864), not the author, Sarah Orne Jewett (1849-1909), another cousin.

Marie and Kitty have not yet been identified.

The transcription of "Grace" is very uncertain, and she remains unidentified.

Berkeley: The Berkeley Hotel in Boston was in the Back Bay area, not far from the home of Annie Adams Fields. At this time, Jewett continued to suffer debilitating symptoms after her September 1902 carriage accident.

Pillows: While Knight seems to have written "Pillows," her handwriting often is eccentric, and it seems more likely that she would have written "Willows." What looks like a P could be a W. In 1903, there was a Willows Hotel in Prouts Neck, ME, south of Portland, in a country of pointed firs.

The manuscript of this letter is held by the Houghton Library of Harvard University: bMS Am 1743 (128), Knight, H. G. 2 Letters to Sarah Orne Jewett; 1898-1903.

Helen Williams Gilman* to Sarah Orne Jewett

[*2 September 1903*]

Dear Sarah,

Tomorrow is your birthday, and I want to send you one little word of love and very best wishes.

I do not know as you are at home today, but shall send this note there, because both it & the candy will keep.

[*Page 2*]

I hope you will have a beautiful day — wherever you are — and a very happy new year.

Always your fond
Aunt Gilman

[L. R. H. *?*]*
Sept. 2d

Notes

Gilman: Probably, the "Aunt Gilman" who signed this note was Helen Williams Gilman. Key to Correspondents.

Penciled in another hand at the top right of page 1: 1903?? The rationale for this speculation is unknown, and no details of the letter support any particular date, except that it must be from before December of 1904, if the author is correctly identified.

L. R. H. : The transcription of these initials is uncertain. Probably, they identify the person who wrote this letter for Aunt Gilman, and that person remains unknown.

The manuscript of this letter is held by the Houghton Library of Harvard University: Sarah Orne Jewett Correspondence I, Letters to Sarah Orne Jewett. Gilman, [ ] 1 letter; [1903?]. (81). This transcription is from a photocopy held by the Maine Women Writer's Collection, University of New England, Letters from Sarah Orne Jewett, 1875-1890, Box 2, Folder 99, Burton Trafton Jewett Research Collection.

Edward William Garnett to Sarah Orne Jewett
Fragment

Sept. 9. 1903

The Cearne
Kent Hatch
№ Edenbridge
England.*

Dear Madam,

I received your very kind letter while away on a holiday, & ^have^ waited till my return before writing. {"}I feel as if we had made friends{.}" That sentence of yours is particularly welcome to this far off critic who can appreciate much better than he can explain his appreciation.

I am very very sorry about your

[*Page 2*]

accident — the fall, & blow on the head. I'm afraid that yours may be a case where the doctor can assist Nature scarcely at all. I hope however that you have taken the advice of several doctors. I say this, as the sad death of my mother but two

months ago, has given me cause to distrust the diagnosis of the ordinary 'able' medical man, & to realize most bitterly how superficial & misleading a single diagnosis may be.

It is very good of you to offer to send me any of your books with which I am unacquainted. I am ~~sorry~~ a little

[*Page 3 with letterhead*]

[2 *circled*]

ashamed to say that I have never read Deephaven,* & cannot get it from libraries here. And yet it must have surely appeared in an English edition? If not, I would urge Mr Duckworth to buy American sheets from your publisher, & reissue the novel here.

Mr Duckworth by the way asks me to express his interest in the idea of a new Selection of your Stories,* & he would be glad to hear from Messrs Houghton Mifflin directly it takes

[*Page 4*]

a definite shape. He would no doubt be ready to arrange to take a modest edition of the, (say,) three volumes, & push them here as well as he could.

In writing my little Academy article I made out a list of the 30 stories which I judged to be the best artistically — but I have stupidly mislaid this list, and as I have lent various of the* volumes to friends who have not returned them, the list I am now sending you is but a tentative selection. I am sure there must be tales in A Native of Winby which ought to be included, & if you

[*Page 5 with letterhead*]

[3 *circled*]

will send me your list in exchange, I can then go over it, & send you an outsider's comments.

One or two points are worth mentioning: [*deletion*] e.g. — None of your sketches* of Irish-American life seem to me to reach the level of your best work. I — half an Irishman myself — feel you are dealing with the Irish as with ^a^ stranger people. You are sympathetic — but you seem [to be idealizing them in a gracious way, [or]* to be dealing with the surface characteristics. The English never understand the Irish — That is my experience — & I confess

[*Page 6*]

the Englishman in me is often hopelessly at variance with the Irishman! — Another point is — many of your earlier stories have touches of moralizing which as it were weigh down & destroy their charity, which brings us up against that hardest of all walls — the ethical wall.

The remarkable thing about your best work — if I may be pardoned for a clumsy comment — is the fusion of the rather hard, unyielding ethical conceptions of life of your New England characters with the softer finer wider understanding of ~~the~~ you yourself, the artist, of ^you^ the creator of "Miss Tempy's Watchers" & "The Country of the Pointed Firs."

Occasionally the two do

[*Manuscript ends*]

Notes

England: This return address appears on a page with a deleted letterhead appearing below the date. The letterhead reads:

DUCKWORTH & Co.,
Publishers

Telegrams: "DUCTARIUS, LONDON."
Cable Address: "GERWADUCK, LONDON."
Telephone 3423 Central
3. HENRIETTA STREET
COVENT GARDEN,
W.C.

Deephaven: Jewett's first novel appeared in 1877. According to WorldCat, the second, illustrated, edition of *Deephaven* appeared in London, from Osgood & McIlvaine, in 1893.

Stories: Worldcat lists only one Jewett publication by Duckworth & Company: *The King of Folly Island and Other People* (1903).

Academy article: Garnett's "Miss Sarah Orne Jewett's Tales." *Academy and Literature* 65 (July 11, 1903): 40-41. Reprinted in Cary, *Appreciation of Sarah Orne Jewett*.

of the: Garnett may have deleted these two words.

Winby: Jewett's short story collection, *A Native of Winby* (1893).

sketches: See Jack Morgan and Louis Renza, *The Irish Stories of Sarah Orne Jewett*, 1996.

or: I have placed inside brackets what appears to be an insertion.

Watchers ... Firs: "Miss Tempy's Watchers" appeared in *Atlantic Monthly* (March 1888) and was collected in *The King of Folly Island* (1888)

and *Tales of New England* (1890). *The Country of the Pointed Firs* appeared in 1896.

The manuscript of this letter is held by the Miller Library, Special Collections, Colby College, Waterville, ME: JEWE.1.

Sarah Orne Jewett to William Dean Howells

South Berwick, Maine,
Saturday, Sept[r.] 12th.
[*1903*]*

Dear Mr. Howells

I have been wishing to tell you each day how much I thanked you for your kind visit and what a very great pleasure it was. I began at once to hope that you would come again this very autumn! and that some day Mrs. Howells would feel well enough to come — to stay longer than last Friday, and be given a chance to get the raspberry shrub off your fingers, and not be told all the most interesting facts about this Berwick world all at once! And we should speak of other things more; we only began about Lady Rose's Daughter* which I narrowly forgot my liking for, in flying off to think of the writer! — while we did not even speak of Mr. James's paper about Zola,* done in the great manner and full of fine things — a word about taste for instance that should be immortal — I had a new letter from him too just after you came, so that I am full of reasons for your coming back! Thank you for sending the paper about the Ashfield dinner, which I must keep for Theodore or I should not have troubled you.* I cannot put my hand on Mr. Norton's letter about Traherne,* my letters get into untidy heaps in these days — but I think you will say the same things — I mean of Traherne's curious anticipation of Emerson* etc. and you are sure to say that it is after all a charming thing to have left the poems asleep as one might say, to wake up in this new spring, in broad daylight. I remember our having a word about Quiller-Couch's collection of verse* — I am going to send you a little book which Mrs. Meynell* made — a brief collection indeed, but pretty near perfect, with a subtle thread of consecutiveness. (This isn't the right word.)

[*Page 2*]

I have seldom parted from my copy all this long year — it is such a nice light little book!

No answer: but do come once more if you can.

Yours most sincerely
S.O.J.

Notes

1903: See Jewett to Howells of 11 August and 15 September1903. 12 September fell on Saturday that year. Henry James's last essay on Zola had just appeared in the August *Atlantic Monthly*. Alice Meynell had visited Jewett the year before.

Lady Rose's Daughter: Mary August Ward's 1892 novel. Key to Correspondents.

Mr. James's paper about Zola: Probably, this was "Émile Zola" by Henry James, which appeared in *Atlantic Monthly* in August 1903, a year after the French author's death in September 1902. Key to Correspondents and Wikipedia.

Norton's letter about Traherne: See Jewett to Charles Eliot Norton of 19 August 1903. Jewett refers to British poet and Neoplatonist theologian, Thomas Traherne (1636-1674).

Emerson: American author, Ralph Waldo Emerson (1803-1882).

Quiller-Couch's collection of verse: British author, Sir Arthur Thomas Quiller-Couch (1863-1944). During Jewett's lifetime, he published two volumes of his own poetry: *Green Bays, Verses and Parodies* (1893) and *Poems and Ballads* (1896). He also edited at least two anthologies: *The Golden Pomp* (1895) and *The Oxford Book of English Verse* (1900). Jewett seems likely to refer to the last title.

Mrs. Meynell: Alice Meynell. Key to Correspondents. She visited Jewett while in the U.S. in the spring of 1902. That year she published *Later Poems*, a volume of about 40 pages.

The typescript of this letter is held by the Houghton Library of Harvard University, Cambridge, MA. bMS Am 1743.1 Sarah Orne Jewett Additional Correspondence II. Letters from Sarah Orne Jewett, Box 4 (122).

Sarah Orne Jewett to Isabella Stewart Gardner

Saturday September 12th [*1903 or 1908*]
[*Begin letterhead*]
South Berwick, Maine
[*End letterhead*]

Dearest Mrs. Gardner

What a kind and dear note you have written to me. I shall never forget it! Oh you are quite right there was no reason for such a foolish disaster, and so one can make no excuses.

My sister and I are so sorry to have been away

[*Page 2*]

when you came to Hamilton House.* I must give you my story about the charming old place sometime — !

Your ever affectionately
Sarah O. Jewett

Notes

1903 or 1908: 12 September fell on a Saturday in 1903 and again in 1908. Jewett's letters suggest that she was at home in South Berwick during parts of September in both years. I have chosen arbitrarily to place the letter with others of 1903. It is at least remotely possible that the disaster to which she refers is her September 1902 carriage accident.

Hamilton House: See Emily Davis Tyson in Key to Correspondents. Hamilton House became a place to visit in South Berwick after 1900, when Tyson completed her restoration of the property. It is possible that Jewett refers to her novel, *The Tory Lover* (1901), which is set partly at the Hamilton House.

The manuscript of this letter is held by the Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum, Boston, MA.

Sarah Wyman Whitman to Sarah Orne Jewett

[*14 September 1903*]*

Darling, I send you a little rejoinder that I felt called upon to make when Mr Goodhue* — (young and not quite deep enough in the heart of things —) wrote of old glass & new: and I hope you'll think it reasonable!

And I saw A.F. last night sitting on the Sunset's Edge, as I was on my way to Cliffs:* and she looked (I thought) better than

[*Page 2*]

I had seen her look all Summer: the result perhaps of her little visit, which was such a cup of pleasure. I could not go & dine with her & the gentle Whittemore because, being the day after the Fair, I was likely to fall to pieces if I moved. So I sat still and got myself screwed together again. But O the best B. Farms* Fair ever had: 18 down from town & E. Franklin*

[*Page 3*]

2

another [*unrecognized word* Father *?*] (who have had no vacation this year) came by the 10.45 & returned at 9:30! Luncheon at Old Place: High tea at the Vestry, and lemonade & [guess-cake *?*] "all along". — A very great occasion.

The one pressing question was as to you: & your absence was hard to bear — though it was only the Baptist Fair this time.

[*Page 4*]

But you will know about a good many missings dear friend: and that we at this end have to draw heavily on patience in order to give you freedom & time to get those nerves* all squared & solid. It will come "unannounced" too, when it does come: yet all your patience and our abstinence is necessary to this great end —

Love & blessing every day from your

Sw

Notes

14 September 1903: The envelope associated with this letter was cancelled on 14 September 1903 and addressed to Jewett in South Berwick.

Mr. Goodhue: Whitman speaks of her response, "Stained Glass," in *Handicraft* 2:6 (1903) 117-31, to Harry Eldredge Goodhue, "Stained Glass," in *Handicraft* 2:4 (1903) 77-92. In "The Second Gothic Revival and the Transformation of Taste," Virginia Raguin writes:

> In 1903 Harry Eldredge Goodhue published an article in *Handicraft* magazine criticizing the contemporary opalescent style as not "stained glass, for it is absolutely different from what has been understood by the term." Sarah Wyman Whitman replied in a subsequent issue praising the experimentations of La Farge and the validity of the American contributions in new methods and expression.

Cliffs: Whitman was on her way to the summer home of Alice Greenwood Howe, and she apparently passed by Annie Field's summer home, also in Manchester-by-the-Sea, MA, on her route.

Whittemore: Fields was acquainted with Thomas Whittemore (1871-1950), the American archaeologist who founded the Byzantine Institute of America. He was a favorite among her younger friends, often mentioned by Alice Meynell, for example.

B. Farms: Beverly Farms, MA, where Whitman had her summer home. Wikipedia notes that in summers, Whitman taught a Bible class at a

Baptist church in Beverly Farms and that she helped to raise funds at church fairs for such projects as a library and a reading room.

E. Franklin: Whitman may refer to one of her correspondents, Elizabeth Franklin, who was a member of the Bible class Whitman led at Trinity Church in Boston. In a letter of 14 June 1890, Whitman wrote to Miss Franklin about her father's health.

guess-cake: At 19th-century church fund-raising fairs, one item donated and sold was "guess-cake," which at least sometimes involved paying for a chance to guess at the kind of cake it was, with a correct guess winning the cake.

nerves: More than a year after her carriage accident of 3 September 1902, Jewett continued to suffer serious debilitating symptoms.

The manuscript of this letter is held by the Houghton Library of Harvard University. Whitman, Sarah (Wyman) 1842-1904. 92 letters; [1884]-[1903] & [n.d.] Jewett, Sarah Orne, 1849-1909. Sarah Orne Jewett additional correspondence, 1868-1930. MS Am 1743.1 -107.

William Dean Howells to Sarah Orne Jewett

Kittery Point
Sept. 15, 1903.

Dear Miss Jewett:

Your letter and your book have both come, and these poor thanks must go to [let *?*] you and your sister [know *?*] the sense of your welcome has not left me yet. I think it must have been the beautiful old house and garden that helped give the welcome, for I cannot separate either of you from them.

Your house will always remain a surprise to me, not because it was not the fittest possible setting for such literature as yours, but just because it was: literature does so often have such alien settings. The garden! It would not have

[*Page 2*]

been the house it is without the garden, where all its graceful [motives *or* motions *?*] were carried out in leaf and flower.

It was a [rose *?*] visit, and I am glad I would not suffer it to be qualified by any other call. I think the strange pleasure of it culminated in seeing you standing in the doorway of the dining parlor, with your look of [care *?*], and affirming the constant [quiet *?*] of it all.

I have dipped into your poetry book, where I have found tentative touches of your pencil, but where I could not have you [a amiss *?*], anyway. I met Mrs. Meynell,* you know in New York. It is an added allure. Mrs. Howells and Pilla join me in affectionate regards to your sister and yourself.

Yours affectionately
W. D. Howells.

Notes

Mrs. Meynell: Jewett apparently has given Howells an annotated copy of poems by Alice Meynell. Key to Correspondents. Her most recent volume of poems would have been *Later Poems* (1903).

Pilla: Howells's daughter. Key to Correspondents.

The manuscript of the letter is held by the Houghton Library of Harvard University. Howells, William Dean, 1837-1920. 16 letters to Sarah Orne Jewett; 1875-1908. Sarah Orne Jewett correspondence, 1861-1930. MS Am 1743 (105).

Edward Garnett to Sarah Orne Jewett

Sept 16. 1903

The Cearne
Kent Hatch
№ Edenbridge
Kent.

Dear Miss Jewett,

May I ask you if you would care — ever — to write a short paper* or causerie on any American book or author dear to you? . The reason I ask is that I have ^been^ conferring with the Editor of "The Speaker", on

[*Page 2*]

points of literary policy, & he has requested us to write to certain authors whose names I have mentioned.

I daresay you will tell me that you do not feel tempted to write on literary subjects, or to sit in judgment on fellow authors ---- but I do not wish you to write ~~as~~ on any subject not near to you, ^or on one^ ~~not~~ about which you have not

[*Page 3*]

secret convictions which you feel you can express. My own experience is that there is a certain very small curiosity of authors who receive perhaps, recognition but only a meagre & intermittent justice. (I might instance "Mark Rutherford's"*

writings, in England, "The Revolution [*deletion*] in Tanner's Lane", etc. Do you know them?)

Or again — the loud opinion of the world

[*Page 4*]

vulgarizes the values of writers, & we get to accept stereotyped verdicts & pass them on as the true. Such verdicts can only be impaired or destroyed by the fresh penetrating sympathies or antipathies of people who write from feeling or conviction. So you should help us. / These excellent & [formal *?*] reasons will not, I know, affect your inclinations or judgment in the least —

[*Page 5*]

but I hope you will think over the matter.

"The Speaker" is the chief Liberal weekly paper, & is one of the few English papers that made a determined stand against the late disgraceful ^Transvaal^ war.*

It is full of excellent principle, but has hitherto been too exclusively a political organ, & not broad enough in its ~~principles~~ outlook.

If you do write on any literary

[*Page 6*]

subject near to you, — (say 1500 - 2000 words,) "The Speaker" will pay 3 Guineas for the article which should be addressed to me registered.

Pray pardon any curtness in this note. I wish you to feel that you have an audience here waiting to hear your voice, & I feel that you have criticisms or appreciations of books to offer which will give the English insight.

In asking

[*Page 7*]

(3

you to write or not, according to your mood I do not forget that your illness may have taken away all desire, or at least that you may not soon find it possible to write.

You will I am sure send me word of your actual state, & whether you are free from pain.

Believe me
Yours most truly
Edward Garnett.

___

Notes

paper: Jewett is not known to have written such an article for *The Speaker*. After her debilitating accident of September 1902, Jewett is not known to have written again for publication.

"Mark Rutherford's": British author, William Hale White (1831-1913) published as Mark Rutherford. His *The Revolution in Tanner's Lane* appeared in 1887. Wikipedia.

Transvaal war: Wikipedia identifies the Transvaal War as the First Boer War between the British and the Boers of Transvaal in 1880-81.

The manuscript of this letter is held by the Miller Library, Special Collections, Colby College, Waterville, ME: JEWE.1. Associated with this letter is an envelope addressed to Jewett in South Berwick, cancelled in New York on 20 September 1903, with 10 cents postage due. There is a cancellation on the back side as well. Both the envelope and the first sheet of the letter are trimmed in black. See Garnett to Jewett of 9 September 1903, in which he mentions the recent death of his mother.

Sarah Orne Jewett to Annie Elizabeth Caldwell Mower

September 18th
[*1903*]*
[*Begin letterhead*]
South Berwick Maine
[*End letterhead*]

My dear Mrs. Mower I have been wishing that I could see you to tell you of my great sympathy in hearing of your aunt's death —* I cannot help feeling that as her strength grew less it must have been a great comfort to her to watch your always increasing power of usefulness, but just because your cares and interests grow larger, you will miss her help and counsel all the more.

[*Page 2*]

— We only understand the blessing of older friends and 'somebody to go to' as we grow older and put our hearts more and more into what we find to do — But to have such a [counsellor *corrected*] once is not to lose her now; you will ^always^ have the blessing of her love and her true wisdom — The memory of such love and wisdom will go with you into hard places as well as happy ones all your life. It is always very

[*Page 3*]

touching to me to see a person whose influence has been widespread, take up the [*deletion*] less-evident, the restricted service that age permits — There is a pathetic phrase that great men may live long enough to see themselves forgotten, but it is never so! I believe that their best teaching may be given then to those who are fortunate enough to be their ^nearest^ friends and they may give the golden value of their lives into a few fit hands. ---- It is the loveliest inheritance, this of character — and the sense

[*Page 4*]

of true values, with the power of appreciation, make its best treasures — — I am sure that you often feel lonely, with all your gratitude that the days of your aunts failing strength are done, but you will have many happy thoughts, and a new sense of her nearness to you, for company and consolation. I am sure that it was a great comfort to her to have a niece like you! Believe me

Yours very affectionately,

S. O. Jewett

Notes

aunt's: Richard Cary notes that Mower's aunt, Eunice Caldwell Cowles, died on September 10, 1903.

The manuscript of this letter is held by Colby College Special Collections, Waterville, ME: JEWE.1. Richard Cary included his transcription in *Sarah Orne Jewett Letters.* New transcription and notes.

Ellen Tucker Emerson to Annie Adams Fields

Concord, 24 Sept. 1903

Dear Mrs Fields

Thankyou for your notes and the amusing account of [transmitt *so it appears*] between you and Miss Jewett. Also for The Week at a French Country-House which I will return in a week or two, after I have read it to those friends for whom I wished to have it.

Affectionately,

Ellen T. Emerson.

Notes

French Country-House: Adelaide Kemble Sartoris (1815-1879) was an English opera singer, the younger sister of Fanny Kemble, actress and anti-slavery activist. She wrote *A Week in a French Country House* (1867).

The manuscript of this letter is held by the Huntington Library, San Marino, CA, in the James T. Fields Papers and Addenda Box 16: mss FI 5637, Folder 2.

Sarah Orne Jewett to Edward Garnett

South Berwick
Maine
October 12th
[*1903*]*

My dear Mr. Garnett

I have been wishing to answer your two most kind and friendly letters, but I have been so ill with a {new}* bad attack of pain in my head with all the tiresome results of ^(dullness & drowsiness)^ that I could only wait — It is a simple enough 'case' I {suffered} a very bad concussion indeed {which} is sure to take more {months} than I care to think about {passing to} even begin the proverbial {eight} [*unrecognized word*] a bad {cropper} in the {hunting} [*unrecognized word*]

[*Page 2*]

For many years {when} I have been riding a great {deal}, nothing happened, and to become the prey of Fate* in an ordinary drive seemed almost ignominious.

— But your reference to your mother's* sad illness and death has touched me very much. I know too well how such regrets double one's pain and that there is no such loss — one is a child as long as she lives and then ^we^ seems to front the world alone for the first time. It is an unexpected, an unimagined sorrow, however dark the dread of it may have been. I know it all -----

Your list of the stories* gave

[*Page 3*]

their writer much satisfaction — the poor creatures are glad enough to have won such a friend. I should make much the same list myself. — The other day when I began to feel better I was quite downhearted and I took one of the books with a sort of {despair} as if I must be made to believe that there had been a person who could get something done — I read

[*Page 4*]

them. [*5 - 7 unrecognized words*] been speaking about a {second} edition which I have {privately} determined to make a selection ^{ I read }^ with all the severity I could master. I suppose that the form ^of the [*mark*] stories^ &c would be in some

degree dependent upon how large an edition Messrs. Duckworth &c could order. I do not see how they could find it wise to take a large [*unrecognized word or 2*] Messrs. Smith*

[*Damaged sheet 5, two pages*]

I've recovered no significant text from this sheet. The left page has "South Berwick" letterhead, upside down, and there may be a signature in about the middle of the left page, followed presumably by a long postscript.]

[*Fragments from damaged sheet 6, 2 pages*]

[*Left page*]

like the grandmother [how *or* now] I had imagined

she gave one a [start] !

We are not Puritans in this corner of New England [and *or* in] many of my own books

people for the King — it was not like Plymouth where life was very [different,] more [picturesque and] and less [?] perhaps —

[Mr. Henry] James would (did say to me) that

and her like were

but they were

than Mrs. Todd at

I disbelieve in modern

^the worthlessness^ of historical in that to write of yesterday is to be

of the past! I have

[*right page*]

almost never tried to write with a real purpose in my mind

characters

studies from life

see that

no matter how many details are

I could not make him [seem] alive to

alas! I suppose that [we cant make stories live]

it is only the [creature or creative]

but I almost always see [exactly] my [creative or created] being

[only after] she has long been

Please take the

selfish enough

Pray forgive so long a letter and all its tiresome [corrections]

I have had the

Notes

1903: Jewett responds to Garnett's letter of 9 September 1903.

new: This letter is water damaged, with the result that several parts are blurry or washed out. In the first four pages, whenever I can make out damaged text, I have indicated with braces my guess at what Jewett has written. Where I cannot, I indicate in brackets the apparent number of words I cannot make out.

Sheets 5 and 6, two pages each, are unreadable, except for a few random words. Elizabeth Garver, of the Harry Ransom Center, graciously provided high resolution images of these pages and suggested a developing, currently free software program designed to recover damaged images, Retroreveal. However, I still only was able to make guesses at a few phrases using these means. The most tenuous guesses are in brackets.

Line breaks in this part of the transcription indicate breaks between the fragments I was able to make out.

Because of these problems, I am unable to tell the correct order of the pages on these sheets, but it appears that the pages on sheet 6 are in order from left to right, and if there really is a signature on the left page of sheet 5, that may be the final page.

Fate: Jewett refers to her carriage accident of September 1902, which resulted in permanent disability.

stories: In "Miss Sarah Orne Jewett's Tales," Garnett uses the occasion of Duckworth & Company's 1903 British publication of *The King of Folly Island* (1888) to present an overview of Jewett's work. He singles out *The Country of the Pointed Firs* (1896) and several specific stories for special praise. Among the stories he rates most highly are: "Decoration Day," "The Hiltons' Holiday," "A Dunnet Shepherdess," "The Passing of Sister Barsett," and "The King of Folly Island." His essay appeared in *Academy and Literature* 65 (July 11, 1903) 40-41.

British publisher Gerald de l'Etang Duckworth (1870-1937) founded Duckworth & Company in 1898. Garnett was an editor at Duckworth in 1903. As shown in previous letters of 1903, Garnett and

Jewett were considering another publication of a careful selection of Jewett's fiction. Apparently Jewett found this particularly attractive in light of the failure of her American publisher to realize a projected new edition of her selected works. Duckworth did not publish another volume of Jewett's work after *The King of Folly Island*.

mother's sad illness: Garnet's mother was Olivia Narney Garnett (1844 - 23 June 1903).

Smith: Almost certainly, Jewett speaks of Smith, Elder & Company, British publisher of *The Queen's Twin* (London, 1900) and *The Tory Lover* (London, 1901). See Jewett to Houghton, Mifflin of 1 October 1904.

This manuscript is held by the Harry Ransom Humanities Research Center, University of Texas at Austin, Jewett, Sarah Orne, 1849-1909. 2 ALS, AL to Garnett, Edward, 1904-1905, undated; Edward Garnett Collection MS-1541. Container 9.1.

Sarah Orne Jewett to Roger Livingston Scaife

Octr 15th. Wednesday

[*1903*]*

[*Begin letterhead*]

South Berwick, Maine

[*End letterhead*]

Dear Mr. Scaife

I thank you for Mrs. Riggs's delightful book* — and for the kind message which your note brought me — I am sorry to be so late in acknowledging them both —

Yours most sincerely
S. O. Jewett

Notes

1903: Just below the letterhead is a Houghton Mifflin date stamp: 16 October 1903. Two punch holes appear at the top of the page. Above "Dear Mr. Scaife" appear penciled initials, probably "RLS" for Roger Livingston Scaife.

Mrs. Riggs's delightful book: Almost certainly, this is *Rebecca of Sunnybrook Farm* (1903) by Kate Douglas Wiggins. Key to Correspondents.

The manuscript of this letter is held by the Houghton Library of Harvard University in Houghton Mifflin Company correspondence and records, 1832-1944, Jewett, Sarah Orne, 1849-1909. 68 letters from; 1870-1907 and [n.d.]. MS Am 1925 (962).

Julia Ward Howe to Mary Rice Jewett

Oak Glen, Melville Station
Newport. R.I. Oct 16th 1903.*

My dear Mifs Mary,

Thanks for your kind note recd yesterday. I cannot just now find my Diary of last year, which would tell me what I spoke about when last in Berwick. Was it Emerson?* If it was not, I can give the paper which I wrote this summer for the Emerson Centennial. [Its' *so it appears*] title is "A Century since Emerson's birth," and I

[*Page 2*]

might add in it more [personal *?*] anecdotes of the Sage of Concord. Besides this, I can offer the following: "Greece reinvented" "Paris," "A plea for Humor" "Patriotism in Literature, American and other." I have also "Women in the Greek Drama." I think that I probably gave "Patriotism in Literature" last year, but am not sure. If none of those suit, you may write suggesting a theme. I have also "Dante & Beatrice{,}" & "A Study of the Mormon Question." The hurry of packing to leave this dear place compels me to close. Please address a reply to 241 Beacon St, where I hope to [arrive *?*] on Monday 19th. Love to dear Sarah & yr dear self.

Julia Ward Howe

[*Up the left margin of page 1*]

Thanks for statement regarding trains. Love to Mrs Fields.

Notes

1903: Associated with this letter is an envelope addressed to Jewett in South Berwick, ME, cancelled in Newport, RI on 16 October 1903. Penciled on the front are two notes. Up the left side: Julia Ward Howe. At the bottom: missent.

Emerson: American author, Ralph Waldo Emerson (1803-1882).

The manuscript of this letter is held by the Houghton Library of Harvard University, Cambridge, MA. bMS Am 1743 Box 8, Item 360, IV. Letters to Mary Rice Jewett.

Sarah Orne Jewett to Louisa Loring Dresel

South Berwick
Sunday 25th October [*1903*]*

My dear Loulie

My letter almost reached you before yours came to me! I have been thinking of you and wishing to write. I am so glad to know all about you dear, but I refuse to take the photograph of Loulie however good the likeness is of the handsome cat. I really cant 'discover that you sat' for it, and looked at the names on the back of the card with wonder! I suppose

[*Page 2*]

it is the angle at which your dear head was tipped. —

I wish that I could say after all this time that I feel good for much. I am better (I am so tired of that endless word!) than I was in Early Summer after the shock and worry of dear Mrs. Fields's illness &c but as I look back I dont believe that I can do much more than I could a year ago or when I was at my best at Mrs. Cabots* in the winter. The sprained

[*Page 3*]

[=ancle-feeling *so written*] in the back of my neck and the attacks of pain trouble me less just as they did then, but they are still ready to come back at the least provocation. But I wont talk about it and I do try not to grumble, though I haven't the spirit about things that I kept for a long time. Reading and writing are both pretty difficult, but I have taken to crocheting! —

I love to hear about your cousin Johanna,* do tell me about

[*Page 4*]

her again! Try her with Miss Sarah Rackemann!* I remember how hard it used to be, when I was taller than most and could not feel more than nine years of age. Mrs. Agassiz* would be so dear to her — she would feel quite at home with her, would Johanna. — but oh how I wish I could know how that dear friend is! Do write soon again on purpose to tell me and give my love to your Aunt Emma Cary* too when you see her — The Time grows very long that I have missed seeing my friends and I do miss dear Mrs. Whitman so

[*Up the left margin and, then, down the top margin of page 1*]

dreadfully — Good-bye dear Loulie{,} Thank you for writing such a good letter. Mrs. Fields is at 148 and will be so glad to see you and knows. Yours always

S. O. J.

Notes

1903: While the archivist gives the letter a 30 October date and the manuscript is very difficult, it seems fairly clearly to read 25 October, which fell on Sunday in 1903. Jewett at this time suffered periodic debilitation resulting from her 1902 accident. Other letters from October 1903 indicate that she experienced one of those during this month.

Mrs. Cabots: Susan Burley Cabot. Key to Correspondents.

Cousin Johanna: Probably this is Johanna Eliza Dresel (1887-1952), grand-daughter of Julius Dresel, half-brother to Louisa's father, Otto. Julius Dresel (1816-1891) was an immigrant wine-grower in Texas and then in Sonoma, California. He married Jane/Johanna Plage (1823-1864). Their son, Dr. Gustave Dresel (1857-1924) was Johanna's father. Young Johanna is likely, then, to have been visiting Louisa from California, when she was about 15 years old. Find a Grave.

Sarah Rackemann: Probably this is Sarah Parkman Rackemann Hyde (1892-1988), the daughter of Felix Rackemann (1861-1954) of Boston. She first married Edward Wigglesworth (1885-1945), who became director of what is now the New England Museum of Natural History. See also the Minot-Rackemann Family Papers at the Massachusetts Historical Society.

Mrs. Agassiz: Elizabeth Cabot Cary Agassiz. Key to Correspondents.

Aunt Emma Cary: Emma Forbes Cary (1833-1918) was the youngest sister of Elizabeth Cabot Cary Agassiz. Key to Correspondents. Though Lousia's mother was a close friend of the Cary family, no evidence has yet been found to establish that she was a relative. Therefore, it appears the "Aunt" is an honorary term in this case. See Lucy Allen Paton, *Elizabeth Cary Agassiz: A Biography* (1919).

The manuscript of this letter is held by the Columbia University (New York) Library in Special Collections, Jewett.

Sarah Orne Jewett to S. Weir Mitchell

October 27th
[*1903*]
South Berwick, Maine

My dear Friend

I cannot help writing to thank you for a very great pleasure: this exquisite St. Martin's Summer* in the new Century! How can one speak of its delicacy its strength its charming subtleties? ---- By reading it again and again and putting it on a shelf where there are only treasures, since actions speak louder than

[*Page 2*]

words – "When the leaves were drifting down around you – you seemed like the glad young Spring" --------- Alas that we have no Sainte-Beuve* in these days to say what should be said of a piece of work like this!

I cannot tell you what a pleasure you have given me and in these days when pleasures are very few. My life was all in writing and reading and friends and a year ago I was thrown from a high carriage — My head tried

[*Page 3*]

to get through to China and didn't! and since that 3rd of September 1902 I have either being staying in bed very "Dumpy" and confused or creeping out into the old garden with a stick, walking zig-zag and swaying about (no coordination to speak of!) pain in my head thickening of meningeal ----- (word gone!) and all the rest. You know how tiresome such cases can be to doctor and patient{.} One does remember that, but all my excellent doctors speak

[*Page 4*]

of "that Prince and Pattern of Physicians, Time" as old Sydenham* called him ----- I was touched to the heart when one day my good doctor Sleeper* the village doctor here told me how much he owed to you in his practice, he had managed to get all your books ^of medicine^ somehow or other, nothing had helped him more ----- so a good deed shines in this naughty world — Forgive this note, I am never sure of writing straight since I often think so crookedly. And must write lying down since I can't write at all at a desk — What good can Habit be! I have spent

[*Page 5*]

time enough at a desk writing in my day.

Thank you dear friend for the delight of all you have written ----- the thing I love best of all to remember is the poem of this Roman Areus* the father and his little girl when he puts his hand on her shoulder ----- it is so doctorly too ---

I love to think of writing — There is nothing like it for happiness for oneself or ones friends. When the wonderful little mill starts itself, and you need only seize your pen. But

[*Page 6*]

it seems not really true that it ever happened! ----- or that the long evenings in summer when we used to talk at Miss Hickman's* or at Beverly were anything but the memory of a happy dream. Please do not think that this calls for an answer – you will be busy and I shall read St. Martin's Summer again

Yours ^and Mrs. Mitchell's^ affectionately,
S.O. Jewett

[*Page 7*]

(I wish that my Tory Lover had been as live and good as your Hugh Wynne* but it was my country too and my heart was in it, and all my pleasure ----)

Notes

St. Martin's Summer: Mitchells story, "The Summer of St. Martin" appeared in *Century Magazine* (November 1903), pp. 144-148. The line Jewett quotes appears in column 1 of p. 145. St. Martin's Summer is a period of sunshine and warmth near the Feast Day of St. Martin on 31 October.

Sainte-Beuve: Charles Augustin Sainte-Beuve (1804-1869) was an eminent French literary critic.

Sydenham: Wikipedia says: Thomas Sydenham (1624 - 1689) "was an English physician. He was the author of *Observationes Medicae* which became a standard textbook of medicine for two centuries so that he became known as 'The English Hippocrates'." For the quotation, see Kenneth Dewhurst, *Dr. Thomas Sydenham (1624-1689): His Life and Original Writings* (1966), p 47.

Sleeper: Dr. Charles M. Sleeper (1856-1924). According to his obituary in the *Portsmouth Herald* (NH), he was a graduate of Bowdoin Medical College (1883) and was active in Maine democratic politics. His wife was Julia F. Sleeper (1861-).

Areus: It seems likely Jewett refers to the first century BC Greek stoic philosopher, Arius

Didymus of Alexandria who became the teacher of the Roman emperor, Augustus Caesar. However it is not clear what she means by this reference. Perhaps she refers to the end of "The Summer of St. Martin" (p. 148), when the main character quotes for a young woman a verse that expresses the wish to shield her from loss and suffering. Perhaps more likely, she is referring to her favorite poem by Mitchell, "In the Valley of the Shadow: The Centurion," collected in his volume of poems, *In War-Time* (1895). See her letter to Mitchell of 15 September 1890.

Miss Hickman's: Miss Hickman has not been identified. It is possible she is a relative of Dr. Napoleon Hickman of Philadelphia, PA, a friend and associate of Mitchell.

Hugh Wynne: Jewett's final novel, *The Tory Lover* appeared in 1900-01. Mitchell's *Hugh Wynne, Free Quaker* (1897), first appeared serially in *Century Magazine* (53:1) November 1896 - October 1897.

The manuscript of this letter is held in the Sarah Orne Jewett Papers, Maine Women Writer's Collection, University of New England, Houghton Autograph File to S. Weir Mitchell #4.

Sarah Orne Jewett to Thomas Bailey Aldrich

29th October [*1903*]*
[*Begin letterhead*]
South Berwick.
Maine.
[*End letterhead*]

My dear friend

How good you are to send me this charming little book!* It is even going to be nicer than any of the chapters that I read in the Century — those used to make one ^ — people^ feel as if two peoples were talking and when the [theist *?*] ^T.B.A.^ was just as interesting as he could be something interrupted him!

[*Page 2*]

It will not seem interrupted now and it is one of those best books that always seem new. The Herrick essay

has never been put away off the table in the library — Perhaps one may not ^often^ read anything but the essay and the lovely list of contents, but it is pleasant to have it there. Indeed I cannot very often read much, but I grow a little stronger all

[*Page 3*]

the time, and if I am careful not to overdo I dont have such long bad pains in my head. Of course I cant write anything but lop-sided notes of little intellect but great affection! — It is a strange life and in fourteen months I have not succeeded in getting used to it. I am going to see dear A.F. tomorrow. She was here and then went to Craigie House* for a visit — to keep

[*Page 4*]

a birthday. She isn't strong at all, but much better than a while ago.* Give my love to Lilian, and to Charley and Tal* when you are writing —

Yours always affectionately
Sarah O Jewett

Notes

1903: Jewett notes that it is 14 months since her September 1902 accident.

little book: It is difficult to know what book Aldrich has given her. Usually he gives her copies of his newest, so perhaps this is a copy of *Ponkapog Papers.* Aldrich included his Herrick essay in this collection. His edition of *Poems of Robert Herrick: A Selection from Hesperides and Noble Numbers*, appeared in 1900. Robert Herrick (1591-1674) was a British lyric poet. Aldrich wrote a long appreciative introduction.

Craigie House: Craigie House was the Cambridge, MA home of the American poet, Henry Wadsworth Longfellow. His daughter, Alice Longfellow's (1850-1928) birthday was on 22 September. Probably, however, this celebration was for Edith Wadsworth Longfellow Dana (1853-1915), whose birthday fell on 22 October.

a while ago: Fields suffered a mild stroke in the fall of 1902. In March of 1903, she seems to have been under the care of a nurse at home. See Sarah Orne Jewett to Fields, probably March 1903.

Charley and Tal: The Aldriches' twin sons, Talbot and Charles were born in 1868.

The manuscript of this letter is held by the Houghton Library, Harvard University, Cambridge, Mass. Thomas Bailey Aldrich Papers, 119 letters of Thomas Bailey and Lilian Woodman Aldrich, 1837-1926. MS Am 1429 (117).

Robert Collyer to Annie Adams Fields

[*Begin letterhead*]
201 West 55th Street
New York
[*End letterhead*]

New York Nov 11th 1903

Dearest Friend

Yours came to breakfast this morning and was still more welcome. It finds me well and meat whole — Gertrude* the dear daughter — for I do not admit the "in law" — is also amending nicely, and has taken hold of the house keeping again. She has been cautioned by the doctor to go slow, it was over work which brought the mischief, and I tell her if she goes at it again I will lock her up, but she says she will be good — I wish I could hold the key over another person I know but mention no name — Yes it will be the very best of all things for Sarah to come to you, the change will be what she will answer to slowly but surely so I believe ^and^ you will be best physician bless her dear heart, and yours — I am growing more cheerful and am in the way of going up to 70th st Sunday afternoons to drink tea but how I do miss my Hattie* as we all do — still we manage to be cheerful — Mr Eastman thinks it will be too much for them to spend the Christmas

[*Page 2*]

at home so he is planning to take them all to Washington, perhaps for the new year also, and if Madame Eastman does not go to her sister in [?]* County she will be with us Christmas day — I am busy writing a chapter or more about my life for the Christian Register —* They threaten me with a number which will take note of my 80th birthday{,} a sort of lift past that [milestone *corrected*] with trumpets and shawms,* and want me to fall in — I hear also that we are to have doings that evening in the church — The children mine were asking me for some names in Boston &c where they might send invitations, and Robin said we must send one to Mrs Fields, so you will no doubt get one — When I was a boy and dreamed dreams this was one { — } that sometime on my birthday I would have my oatmeal in a silver bowl with real cream, not five drops as mother would give me that morning but a jug full — Gertrude says I shall have my oatmeal that morning in the bowl you & Sarah sent her and a silver spoon and a jug full of real cream.

I bought The Ambassadors* yesterday { — } could not help it.* Henry James holds me fast. There is a fine paper about his works in the [Edinburg *so spelled*] for October. It sets The Wings of the Dove very high.

As ever and always yours
Robert Collyer

[*Upside down in the top margin of page 1*]

I shall ask to be made Pastor Emeritus when I am full four score. I want to be free. It is 72 years since I was yoked to the spinning frames.*

Notes

Gertrude: Collyer's son, Robin/Robert, married Gertrude Savage. See Collyer in Key to Correspondents.

Hattie: Collyer's daughter, Harriet Eastman, died in 1903. See Collyer in Key to Correspondents.

Madame Eastman probably is Joseph Eastman's mother, Lucy Putnam Eastman (1823-1908).

?: Collyer appears to have written a question mark here, perhaps because he cannot remember the county's name.

Christian Register: Collyer's memoir, *Some Memories* (1908) first appeared as a series of 29 pieces in *The Christian Register*, beginning in December 1903. *The Christian Register* (1821-1957) was a weekly publication of the American Unitarian Association.

shawms: A shawm is a medieval double-reed wind instrument.

it: Collyer omits several periods in this paragraph. I have supplied them where they seem necessary.

Ambassadors: American author Henry James (1843-1916). Two of his major novels were *The Wings of the Dove* (1902) and *The Ambassadors* (1903).

Collyer seems to be mistaken about the date of the essay he read in the *Edinburgh Review*. Almost certainly he refers to "James's Achievement" in the *Edinburgh Review* 197 (January 1903), pp. 59-85.

frames: Collyer wrote to Fields on 30 November 1903 that he had become pastor emeritus at the Church of the Messiah. Collyer went to work in a linen mill as a child, after his father's death.

The manuscript of this letter is held by the Huntington Library, San Marino, CA, in the James T. Fields Papers and Addenda Box 10: mss Fl 1-5637.

Robert Collyer to Annie Adams Fields

201 West 55th Street
New York Monday
[*30 November 1903*]*

Dear Friend

I am wondering how you are{,} it is or seems so long since I have seen {"}the scart o' your fren."* And the lassies are down to South Berrick.* Sarah I am trying to see across the spaces growing radiant in this magnificent fall weather, just as good as they make it or can make it. I mean "them as is above us." We are all right. Had a lovely Thanksgiving{,} seven all told at the dinner all merry as griggs* — What are griggs? I enjoy my new role of Pastor Emeritus and as Pepys* says when he gets a carriage hope it may continue. Am no more afraid of Sunday. Still I do things. Have been to Germantown to give them a labor of love and they belabored me with that same. Preached to our own people a week ago yesterday and go to Brooklyn for next Sunday. So I am [a part *?*] of busy after all.

In love always yours
Robert Collyer

Notes

1903: Collyer became pastor emeritus at the Church of the Messiah in New York City in 1903. Probably, he composed this letter on the Monday after Thanksgiving that year.

fren: Collyer omits many periods in this letter. I have supplied them wherever they seem necessary. The transcription and reference of "fren" are uncertain. Likewise, it is not clear where Collyer intended to open his quotation.

Berrick: Collyer probably intends a Scots or Yorkshire pronunciation of Berwick, the home town of Sarah Orne Jewett and her sister, Mary. Jewett remarks on this pronunciation (Berrik) in her historical essay, "The Old Town of Berwick" (1894).

Pepys: English diarist Samuel Pepys (1633-1793). His remark about the carriage has not yet been located.

griggs: While the saying "merry as griggs" or "merry as a grig" was in common usage in the 17th to 19th centuries in England, its meaning is disputed. See Thomas Ratcliff in *Notes and Queries* (30 January 1904) p. 94.

The manuscript of this letter is held by the Huntington Library, San Marino, CA, in the James T. Fields Papers and Addenda Box 10: mss Fl 1-5637.

Sarah Orne Jewett to Mary Rice Jewett
Fragment

Wednesday morning
[*December 1903*]
South Berwick, Maine

Dear Mary

. . .You can give the Posy Ring* in the parlor closet to the children at Old Fields.* "Little Ichabod".* They love such books — and they had the mate last year. Perhaps Elise* will like the Christmas Tree trimming in the little S.T. trunk!* With love

Sarah

Notes

1903: The transcriber includes this note in the transcription: [Boston Mass., Dec. 25, 1903].

Posy Ring: Probably, this is *The Posy Ring: a Book of Verse for Children,* chosen and classified by Kate Douglas Wiggin and Nora Archibald Smith. WorldCat indicates that it was first published in 1903 as part of the Children's Crimson Series by Grosset & Dunlap.

Old Fields: At the time, this was the name of the home occupied by the family of Sophia Elizabeth Hayes Goodwin. Key to Correspondents.

mate of it: What is meant by "Little Ichabod" is uncertain. Though the phrase appears in quotation marks, it could easily refer to a member of the Goodwin family, in which Ichabod was an often-used name.
The mate of *The Posy Ring* from the Children's Crimson Series in 1902, was *Golden Numbers: Poems for Children and Young People*.

Elise: Elise Russell. See Emily Davis Tyson in Key to Correspondents.

S.T.: What is meant by these initials is not yet known.

This text is from transcriptions from mixed repositories, Letters from Sarah Orne Jewett, 1875-1890, folder 63, Burton Trafton Jewett Research Collection.

John A. Avery to Sarah Orne Jewett

[*Begin letterhead, underlined portions typed in; top line information not readable in a fuzzy photograph*]
Graham Shoe Company
Makers of
MEN'S FINE BOOTS AND SHOES
280 Washington Street
NEW YORK
[*unreadable street address*]
Boston, December 9, 1903
[*End letterhead*]

MR.S. S. O. JEWETT: —

Circumstances having arisen which compelled me to dispose of my business, I have disposed of same to the Graham Shoe Company of #280 Washington St., Old South Bldg., Boston, Mass., and have accepted a position with the above company in their shop at Quincy, Mass., having taken charge of the making of the custom shoes.

If you will send your valued orders to the Graham Shoe Company, #280 Washington Street, they will receive my personal attention as heretofore.

I would further add that I have brought with me most of my shoemakers, which will insure the shoes being made as formerly.

Thanking you for your kind favors in the past, and hoping a continuance of same, I remain

Yours very truly,
[*Signed* John A. Avery]

Note

The manuscript of this letter is held by the Houghton Library of Harvard University, Cambridge, MA. bMS Am 1743 Box 1, Item 12 I. Letters to Sarah Orne Jewett.

Sarah Orne Jewett to William De Witt Hyde

148 Charles Street
Boston 15th Decr
[*1903*]*

My dear President Hyde

I have meant to write you for a long time but [two *written over* one *?*] bad effects of my persistent illness seem to be that I can only read and write with much effort. ^Firstly^ I have not forgotten that there must be an account on the College books about the placing of the window— freight to all the incidentals —

And I wished to speak to

[*Page 2*]

[to *repeated*] you in season about a next year's freshman, young Mr. Shipley Ricker,* a boy at home in whom I am interested, and I have been very eager to have him decide to go to Bowdoin. This I think he has done, I am glad to say, but he will need to help himself as much as possible. He is a nephew of our librarian at the Fogg Library,* and he had a capital training in library work so far, always helping Miss Ricker ^in her work^ — His life & interest seem to be centered in books, and if it is possible

[*Page 3*]

I wish that he might have a chance as assistant of some sort in the Bowdoin Library. He is able to be really useful at once: writes an excellent "library hand" &c. You could ask George Lewis* about him at your library, as he has always known the boy. — Perhaps there will be no such vacancies this very next year but I wish that you would keep an eye on him! No athletics to be asked for in this case but a natural lover of books.

I hope that you and

[*Page 4*]

dear Mrs. Hyde are both well?

My sister and I have not forgotten the pleasure of your brief visit to us in the summer. I can still do very little, but the change of coming to town has been a good thing I am sure. I wish that I might see you if you should be coming to town — I shall be here a while yet.

Yours most sincerely
S. O. Jewett

Notes

1903: This date is supported by Jewett's reference to the memorial window, designed and built by Sarah Wyman Whitman, that she gave to Bowdoin College in 1903.

Shipley Ricker: Probably this is Shipley Wilson Ricker (b. 1887), son of Frederick Shipley Ricker and Elizabeth J. Austin. His aunt Ella W. Ricker (1856-1928), an amateur poet, served as librarian at the Berwick Academy. Find a Grave.

Fogg library: The then almost new library of the Berwick Academy in South Berwick.

George Lewis: Probably George Lothrop Lewis. Key to Correspondents.

The manuscript of this letter is held by the George J. Mitchell Department of Special Collections & Archives, Hawthorne-Longfellow Library, Brunswick, ME, Sarah Orne Jewett Papers, Series 1 (M238.1): Correspondence, 1877-1905, n.d.

Alice Meynell to Sarah Orne Jewett

[*Begin letterhead*]
47,
PALACE COURT,
W.
[*End letterhead*]

December 16 [*1903*]*

My dear Friend,

Let me wish you a very happy Christmas and New Year. I long had the hope of seeing you in 1903. But the days

[*Page 2*]

of that year are now gone. If I ever go to America again, it will be with eagernefs to see you again. I trust you are well.

We are all fairly well — my girl who married in

[*Page 3*]

the summer very flourishing and blooming. She is settled near me and I see her continually. Work is happily abundant, but I am doing so many editings and introductions as to leave no

[*Page 4*]

time for anything quite of my own.* My husband's book on Disraeli* had a very mixed reception. The reviewers did not see how carefully his little anecdotes were placed so as to illustrate points of character and not by chance — medley.

Often and often do I think of you in your dear house

[*Left t right across the top margin of page 1*]

where you made me so very happy.

Believe me ever
Your affectionate
Alice Meynell*

Notes

1903: Meynell's eldest daughter, Monica (1880-1929), married Dr. Caleb William Saleeby (1878-1940) in June 1903.

own: Atkinson notes that at this time Meynell was editing poets for the Red Letter Library series published by Blackie and Sons. In 1903, she published *The Work of John S. Sargent.*

Disraeli: Meynell's husband, Wilfrid Meynell, (1852-1948) authored *Benjamin Disraeli: an Unconventional Biography* (1903). Disraeli (1804-1881) was a British politician who twice served as Prime Minister. He is noted in part for achieving his position in the face of his society's general anti-Semitism.

Meynell: It is not clear whether Meynell or another underlined her signature.

The manuscript of this letter is held by the Miller Library, Special Collections, Colby College, Waterville, ME: JEWE.1. A transcription appeared in Damian Atkinson, *The Selected Letters of Alice Meynell: Poet and Essayis*t (2013), p. 193. Associated with this letter is an envelope addressed to "Mifs Sara Jewett," c/o Mrs. James T. Fields, in Boston. The cancellations reveal little, except that the letter was cancelled at Kew. New transcription and notes.

Kate Douglas Wiggin Riggs to Sarah Orne Jewett

New York. Dec. 20 1903

Dearest Miss Jewett.

It is good of you to ask, or to care how I am. I think I may say better, but only at the cost of much trouble, such cares{,} such eternal looking back, & [pressing *?*]

[*Page 2*]

the soft pedal* down on myself (to quote Henry James)* that I take little comfort out of the shreds of strength patched up & saved. Yet all the same I have [passed *?*], and now that I confidently believe I can never be very strong{,} I shall try to be more philosophic, more serene,

[*Page 3*]

more patient & more sensible — It will take some years for me to learn these lessons & some of them I shall only learn in my next incarnation, for I am too stupid & wilful in my present state-of-development.

I wish I could come to Boston to see with my own eyes how you are faring. It has been so slow with you that my heart aches to think of it; — how much you have lost, how much your friends, & your would-be

[*Page 4*]

[Tes *?*]{.} Rebecca* is trudging along like a stout, energetic little state o' Maine girl, to everybody's surprise, mine most of all. I cannot be proud remembering "When Knighthood was in Flower" & "Mrs Wiggs of the Cabbage Patch," but my conscience acquits me of all intention of being popular. I think what most pleases me is that you like the book & Mr. Aldrich.

Remember me to Mrs. Fields please. Many thanks for Miss Nortons* appreciative note — Yours with much affection.

Kate W Riggs

Notes

soft pedal: Presumably a reference to the left pedal on a piano.

Henry James: Key to Correspondents. His reference to "the soft pedal" has not yet been located.

Rebecca: Wiggin Riggs's novel was published in 1903.

"When Knighthood was in Flower" & "Mrs Wiggs of the Cabbage Patch": *When Knighthood was in Flower* (1898) is a novel by American author Charles Major (1856-1913). *Mrs. Wiggs of the Cabbage Patch* (1901) is a novel by American author Alice Hegan Rice (1870-1942). Wikipedia.

The manuscript of this letter is held by the Houghton Library of Harvard University in Sarah Orne Jewett, Correspondence, MS Am 1743, Item 236, Wiggin, Kate Douglas (Smith) 1856-1923. 7 letters; 1902-[1905]. This transcription is from a photocopy held by the Maine Women Writers Collection, The Burton Trafton Papers, Box 2, Folder 98.

Annie Adams Fields to Thomas Bailey Aldrich
Fragment

148 Charles St.
Boston Decr 21st 1903.

Dear friend:

We know of your vicissitudes* as the newspapers choose to relate them, but the seas of time have rolled between us since I saw you last. Sarah has been well enough to come to Boston and to improve steadily during the five weeks

[*letter ends, no signature*]

Notes

v*icissitudes*: While Fields may refer to several problems, of primary concern at this time was the health of their son, Charles Frost Aldrich, who was dying of tuberculosis. He died on 6 March 1904.

The manuscript of this letter is held by the Houghton Library of Harvard University: Thomas Bailey Aldrich Papers, MS Am 1429, Box 6, Items 1446-1538.

Grace Norton to Sarah Orne Jewett

[*Christmas 1903*]

Dear Miss Jewett

If you have not seen these — words I am glad to introduce ~~you to~~ them to you. I am sure you will like some of them. Read

[*Page 2*]

"The Walk"* first.

My Christmas wishes go to you with much warmth & meaning.

Affectionately yours
Grace Norton.

Christmas
1903.
Don't write to acknowledge this. —

Notes

"The Walk": Norton has given Jewett a copy of *The Singing Leaves* (1903) by American poet Josephine Preston Peabody (1874-1922). Wikipedia. "The Walk" appears on pp. 84-5.

Associated with this letter is an envelope, addressed to Jewett at 148 Charles St. (Boston). It has no cancellation and, presumably, was hand delivered. On the back appears this penciled note: Taken from The Singing Leaves. Josephine Preston Peabody.

Penciled on the front of the envelope is: 1903.

The manuscript of this letter is held by the Houghton Library of Harvard University, Cambridge, MA. Sarah Orne Jewett Correspondence, bMS Am 1743 Box 4, Item 167. I. Letters to Sarah Orne Jewett.

Sarah Orne Jewett to Mark DeWolfe Howe

148 Charles Street
Christmas Evening
[*December 25, 1903*]*

My dear Friend

You are very kind to send me your Book — I am delighted to have it with your name and mine in the beginning, and I am not writing before I read it, because I have read it already with the greatest delight and admiration.

— I have been waiting for many days to tell you so, but one of the queer blows of fate in this long [illness *corrected*] has been that I have found it strangely

[*Page 2*]

difficult in this last month or two while I have been getting stronger in other ways, to read and write. On some days when I could read I caught eagerly at the Boston, and I wish that I could say now how fine I think it is as a piece of work: charm — perspective, proportion, dignity — readableness are all there. Yes, and seriousness which is so often left out of books in these days — we are sometimes afraid of not being

[*Page 3*]

amusing enough — You often take the humorous point of view, but never descend to the showman's banter — I have just looked into a book that is spoiled by it —

I hope that I shall see you before I go home; it is going to be very hard to get on without dear Mrs. Fields, but I long to have her out of doors more and away from North west winds. She has had a better month of December

[*Page 4*]

than I have sometimes known and always dread for her — but she was terribly saddened by Mrs. Quincy's death.* I was glad that I could be here and she was not all alone — I could not write then but I have thought so often of Fanny and of you and dear little Kinky,* and your loss each in your own way — This dear picture that you brought today makes me feel nearer than I ever did before —

Please believe me always
Yours very affectionately
S. O. Jewett

Notes

December 25, 1903: This date is provided in *The Gentle Americans* (1965) by Helen Howe, where the letter is quoted.

She wrote: "The year 1903 — two years before the dinner in Charles Street — had seen the publication of Father's *Boston, the Place and the People*. Sarah Orne Jewett had written him in that year, on Christmas evening,"

Mrs. Quincy's death: Helen Frances "Fanny" Huntington Quincy (1831 - 11 December 1903), spouse of the Boston lawyer and author Josiah Phillips Quincy (1829-1910). She was related to Mark A. DeWolfe Howe.

Kinky: Mark and Fanny's Howe's son, Quincy Howe (1900-1977) was nicknamed "Kinky." See, *The Gentle Americans* (pp. 74-5).

The manuscript of this letter is held by the Houghton Library of Harvard University in Mark Antony De Wolfe Howe additional papers, 1880-1959. MS Am 1524 (774). Jewett, Sarah Orne, 1849-1909. 16 letters from; 1891-1903.

Sarah Orne Jewett to Harriet Jackson Lee Morse*

South Berwick — Sunday
[*27 December 1903*]*
[*Upper left of side 1 — stamped in green ink, inside a circle, superimposed initials SOJ*]

Dearest Mrs. Morse

I thank you so much for the Audubon Calendar* — How I should miss it now! I hope that we shall always have one — and I hoped to have time to stop and make you a little Christmas visit, or rather to make sure of a Christmas sight

[*Side 2*]

of you on Thursday — Christmas Eve, but I got belated — and so I could only run up the steps and leave a blessing with my little bundle. I shall soon make up for it. I hope that Fanny is quite well again and that you both had a happy Christmas

Yours very affectionately
Sarah

Please thank Miss Allen* for me for the pleasant looking little book. I shall read it when I get back to town —

Notes

Morse: See Frances (Fanny) Rollins Morse in Key to Correspondents.

1903: As the note on Audubon calendars below indicates, this letter must have been composed in 1898 or later. Christmas fell on Friday two more times in Jewett's lifetime, in 1903 and 1908. In both years, Jewett appears to have been in Boston on Christmas day, and then returned to South Berwick within a day or two. I have placed it arbitrarily in the earlier of those years.

Audubon Calendar: According to the Massachusetts Audubon Society, the first Massachusetts Audubon calendar was published in 1898, selling for 50 cents. The calendars featured prints of the illustrations of French-American naturalist John James Audubon (1785-1851). See also Wikipedia.

Allen: This person has not yet been identified.

The manuscript of this card is held by the Houghton Library of Harvard University, Cambridge, MA. bMS Am 1743.1 (123) Box 4, II. Letters from Sarah Orne Jewett.

Sarah Orne Jewett to Mary Rice Jewett

Tuesday morning
[*After Christmas, December 1903*]*

Dear Mary

Emily* came last night and we had a dear time with her — they got looking at one of the autograph books, of famous women, to find a portrait of the Honble Mrs. Norton she that was Sheridan* — and then Emily gave one of her best accounts of a luncheon in [Hallison *so transcribed*] Avenue with Dr. Kin the Chinese lady* whom you know. I worked at my pink crocheting most of the time and it was a pretty evening. Emily liked the book I am glad to say — and seemed pretty well I thought. I have to offer thanks for a Coffee Pot! — Mrs. Fields did not think to take it down with the heap of presents so it had a glorious moment all to itself after we came up stairs. And ['I *so transcribed*] appreciated it to the full even though it was cold and empty at the moment. It is an important person to receive into any family. I shall now keep a sugar bowl upstairs and then Katy* can have this hot, with a little cream and a little pitcher. I feel very much pleased. Mrs. Fields gave us a beautiful big piece of the Italian <u>trapunte</u> work* for the table — finer than any we have got. Emily put a discerning eye upon it before any of the other presents which she seemed to enjoy looking over. Today they must be cleared away. I am so glad that A.F. had such a pretty <u>lot</u> of them. Your list is in the letter down stairs and I shall send it back next time I write. John* has just brought up the little leather trunk. (I think it is jealous now if it gets left at home.) Give my love to Uncle Will.* I am so glad he could come and I wish I had been there to see him. Frances Parkman* was here just before luncheon going to New York today — and dear Ellen Mason* at the end of the afternoon and had a cup of tea with A.F. and brought her doggy. She gave me a beautiful copy of the John Bellini* <u>doge</u> in the Natl Gallery in London. I always thought it looked like her, which amused her. She talked a good deal and very affectionately about Susy Travers.* Frances gave me a lovely Japanese basket-box, but I cant stop to give you <u>my</u> list — here's A.F. already for the letters. Much love to you and Theodore and all.

from
Sarah

Two beautiful winter St. Moritz picture cards* for you & me from K. Dexter* but I haven't any envelope to send them.

Notes

1903: A handwritten note on this transcription reads: 189-. But 1903 is inferred from the appearance of Dr. Kin in Boston in January of 1904.

Sheridan: For Emily Tyson Key to Correspondents.
Caroline Sheridan Norton (1808-1877) was a British social reformer and author, remembered for her work in persuading Parliament to pass acts for the protection of women who become victims in divorce cases.

Dr. Kin: It seems likely that Jewett refers to Kin Yamei (1864-1934), a Chinese born and American raised doctor who trained in the United States. Though she practiced medicine in Japan at various times, she was often in the United States. In January of 1904, her biography reports, she lectured to women's clubs in Boston, at the invitation of Isabella Stewart Gardner (p. 10). She returned in April and September of the same year.
It seems likely that "Hallison Avenue" is a mistake in transcription for Harrison Ave., which is in Boston's Chinatown, or perhaps it is a literal rendition of a Japanese-speaker's pronunciation.

Katy: Presumably an employee of Fields.

Italian <u>trapunte</u> work: trapunta is quilt work.

John: A Fields employee.

Uncle Will: In this case Uncle Will is Dr. William G. Perry (1823-1910), husband of Lucretia Fisk Perry. Key to Correspondents.

Frances Parkman: Mary Frances Parker Parkman. Key to Correspondents.

Ellen Mason: Key to Correspondents.

John Bellini: Wikipedia says: "'The Portrait of Doge Leonardo Loredan' is a painting by the Italian Renaissance master Giovanni Bellini, dating from 1501. It is on display in the National Gallery in London. It portrays Leonardo Loredan, Doge of Venice from 1501 to 1521...." The Wikipedia entry on the painting includes a reproduction.

Susy Travers: Key to Correspondents.

cards: St. Moritz is an alpine resort town in Switzerland. It became a center of winter tourism with an emphasis on the baths and on winter sports in the second half of the nineteenth century.

K. Dexter: This may be Katharine Moore Dexter (1875-1967), daughter of Josephine Anna Moore (1846-1937) and Chicago lawyer Wirt Dexter (1832-1890). In 1903, she married Stanley Robert McCormick (1874-1947), son of inventor and industrialist Cyrus Hall McCormick (1809-1884).

This text is from transcriptions from mixed repositories in the Maine Women Writer's Collection, University of New England, Letters from Sarah Orne Jewett, 1875-1890, Folder 73, Burton Trafton Jewett Research Collection..

Sarah Orne Jewett to an unknown recipient
Fragment

[*1903*]*

3

so I say! —

Some day I wish you to see a new book written by a poet of Donne's* time! Thomas Traherne.* Mr. Norton* sent it to me and it has been such an interest to my mind and heart. Some one found the ^little^ manuscript book and thought it was Vaughan's* work — The poems are strangely modern { — } Emerson — even Walt Whitman,* and many another! There is something beautiful in ones work waiting all that time to be known and loved.

I think as I write of a long wild walk I once took in the mountains and in the loneliest place we found a little apple tree that had grown against ^the^ wind, and alone under the great sky all summer and made its first wonderful crop of yellow apples quite splendid

[*Page 2*]

^golden^ apples they were — all dropped into a grassy hollow ^at the [frost *?*] —^ and the little tree rustling in the autumn wind and looking quite tired ^& silly^* but you felt its ^noble^ pride — and only the sheep might ever have known ^what it had done^ but the Lord had sent us by, [*deletion*] to love and admire and be grateful and ^above all,^ never to forget.

Notes

1903: This fragment offers virtually no clue to establishing a precise date. I have placed in the earliest likely year of 1903 because *The poetical works of Thomas Traherne, now first published from the original manuscripts* appeared in London that year. Jewett and Charles Eliot Norton exchanged several letters related to her reading Traherne in 1903.

Donne's: British poet John Donne (1572-1631).

Thomas Traherne: British author and cleric, Thomas Traherne (c. 1636-1674).

Norton: Harvard English professor Charles Eliot Norton (d. 21 October 1908). See Sara Norton in Key to Correspondents.

Vaughan's: British poet Henry Vaughan (1621-1695).

Emerson ... Whitman: American authors Ralph Waldo Emerson (1803-1882) and Walt Whitman (1819-1892).

silly: This transcription is somewhat uncertain. Jewett has included several marks at this point in the ms., but it seems clear that she intends the word to appear here.

The manuscript of this letter is held by the Houghton Library of Harvard University, Cambridge, MA. AS Autograph file J, Box 101.

Sarah Orne Jewett to Mr. William Wilson

148 Charles Street
Tuesday.
[*1903 or later*]*

Dear Mr. Wilson

Thank you very much for your very kind note and the book — which is interesting as all such things are which have to do with human nature. I am

ignorant enough of the science of astrology, but however ingenious these workings-out may be I never can help wondering how far they have any sound foundation, and how far the later

[*Page 2*]

certainties and idealities of science can be made to bear them out. 'The Stars' were so different to the early astrologers were they not? — it must have been easy enough for sages and [philosophers *corrected*] in those days to announce whatever truths they chose, and to speak of all the 'influences' of Mercury and Mars. But however one may feel about the uncertainties

[*Page 3*]

of astrology it has grown into a most elaborate and ingenious system and careful study, and [this *corrected*] is interesting in itself: even if one remembers the story of the saint who walked off with his head under his arm after decapitation,* and the French wit who said "C'est le premier pas qui conte!"*

All the same I shall be much interested to see the horoscope . . . Pray

[*Page 4*]

give our love to your wife who gives us unspeakable pleasure with her lovely music. You can hardly think how much we have enjoyed the Sunday evenings with you both.

Believe me ever
Yours most sincerely
S. O. Jewett

Notes

1903: The recipient of this letter almost certainly was Scottish merchant and music critic William A. Wilson (1853-1926), the husband of the well-known Scottish-born pianist and composer, Helen Hopekirk (1856-1945). According to Wikipedia, the couple married in 1882 and eventually settled in Boston, MA. With this letter in the Small Library is a newspaper clipping from the *Herald* of 20 November 1945 of Helen Wilson's obituary, which may be viewed at her Find a Grave page.

It seems likely that he had given her Sir William Wilson's *Shakespeare and Astrology* (Boston, 1903). I have not been able to establish that Hopekirk's husband and the author of this book are the same person.

I have dated this letter based upon the possibility that Wilson had given Jewett the 1903 volume, whether or not he was the author.

decapitation: Jewett refers to the 3rd-century Christian martyr, Saint Denis.

C'est le premier pas qui conte!: The full French proverb is: 'La distance ne vaut rien; c' est le premier pas qui conte." The distance to be traveled means nothing; it is the first step that counts.

The manuscript of this letter is held by the Small Library, University of Virginia, Special Collections MSS 6218, Sarah Orne Jewett Papers.

January through June 1904

Annie Adams Fields to Lilian and Thomas Bailey Aldrich

[*3 January 1904*]

May this New Year bring you much good! I sail tomorrow in the Republic* from here at peep of dawn. Please address me C/O J. P. Morgan, Bankers London. Thank you indeed for your letters. My love to your Charley.* I shall return, if all is well, with the spring — This card will amaze you! Affectionately your Annie Fields

Notes

1904: This picture postcard is addressed to the Aldriches at Saranac Lake, NY, and postmarked on 3 January 1904. Filling about 2/3 of the space on the message side is a photo of the older Jewett house, labeled: Home of Miss Sarah Orne Jewett, South Berwick, Maine.

Wendy Pirsig reports in an e-mail that the Counting House Museum of the Old Berwick Historical Society holds a number of such postcards from the turn of the 20th Century, depicting Jewett's home as well as other significant buildings in South Berwick. The publisher was E. W. Townsend, and they were sold in local stores.

Republic: The RMS *Republic* (1903) was a new steam ocean liner at this time, sailing for the White Star Line, Boston and Liverpool, and equipped with a Marconi wireless transmitter.

Charley: The Aldrich's son, Charles, at this time was seriously ill with tuberculosis, and would die in March.

The manuscript of this letter is held by the Houghton Library of Harvard University: Thomas Bailey Aldrich Papers, MS Am 1429, Box 6, Items

1446-1538.

Sarah Orne Jewett to George Edward Woodberry

148 Charles Street
Boston Jan^{y} 6th 1904

Dear M^{r} Woodberry

Your kind letter brings me a great pleasure and I even venture to thank you in advance for the Poems,* since my conscience cannot excuse me of writing before they are read! — And — I am eager to tell you, if I can, before you sail, that you are likely to find Mrs. Fields in Sicily if you should be going to Palermo and to Taormina; (for going to Taormina once, I now thank you from my heart!) (She will be in Rome after the 15th of February 34 via Porta Pinciana with

[*Page 2*]

our old friend Mifs Cochrane,* or can be heard of at any time through the Bankers Sebasti & Reale in Rome).

— I know what joy it would give her to see you again and to see you there, indeed I hope that this pleasure may be possible. You must look forward to a change with ^a^ great sense of having well earned it — Perhaps, when our forbears "kept Sunday", they didn't pile up such arrears of tiredness as we do [& *?*] for the moment I convict myself, and all the more sadly [because *corrected*] I cannot get over the effects of a bad accident which ^befel me when I was much fatigued and^ not only shook and battered my poor head but robs me of my works and ways,* and now adds the new misfortune of keeping

[*Page 3*]

me dull and a little dreary in my idleness here while my dear friend sails away ---- the voyage and journeying being as good for her as it would be bad for me.

I am not so much disappointed by you not caring for The Tory Lover,* as if I had not known that other very kind readers did not care for it either. I cannot believe that so much of my heart was put into it without some life staying there — I could not have died until I got it done! — I have never cared so deeply for any thing, but it was written under the great disadvantages, first of my having grown used to magazine work and then of my being quite cruelly

[*Page 4*]

urged and teased ^ (by the publishers not dear C.D.W.*) ^ into beginning to print it, ~~where~~ ^when^ I ~~only~~ had all my cloth but had not made the story's coat — I wrote it number by number for the Atlantic, and I should have been left to follow my own way of working.

This story [would *corrected perhaps from* could] not bear to be written as Deephaven was, and the Pointed Firs, and yet I had to do it. And then it fell upon evil days, of readers tired of historical novels; it was meant to lead the long procession not to follow it = but I knew my ground and my people, their children & grandchildren, I was not writing of the time of Charlemagne! I think that some of the chapters are as well done as I could ever do them ---- But forgive this long letter and take my true thanks for

[*Up the left margin and across the top margin of page 1*]

the Poems — they have always flown to the old friend whom I so well know though we have never spoken to each other — I send you many good wishes for your holidays. I have a devout belief that this is going to be a really good & happy new year.

Yours ever most sincerely
S. O. Jewett

Notes

once: Jewett appears to have underlined this word twice.

Cochrane: Jessie Cochrane. Key to Correspondents.

works and ways: In her letters, Jewett several times repeats this phrase, sometimes within quotation marks. The actual phrase does not appear, as one might expect, in the King James Bible, though it is suggested in several places: Psalms 145:17, Daniel 4:37, and Revelations 15:3. In each of these passages, the biblical author refers to the works and ways of God. Jewett may be quoting from another source or from commentary on these passages, which tend to emphasize that while God's ways are mysterious, they also are to be accepted humbly by humanity.
Jewett's severe accident occurred on her birthday in September 1902.

The Tory Lover: Jewett's novel was published in 1901, after appearing in serial in *Atlantic Monthly*. Jewett made a few significant revisions between the two publications.

Jewett mentions two of her other four novels, *Deephaven* (1877, 1893) and *The Country of the Pointed Firs* (1896).

C.D.W.: Charles Dudley Warner. Key to Correspondents.

Probably, Jewett's remark about Warner responds to Annie Fields's account of his influence on Jewett's writing of *The Tory Lover* in her book, *Charles Dudley Warner* (1904).

Also her remark about knowing her ground seems to respond to a letter she received from Henry James of 5 October 1901.

The manuscript of this letter is held by the Houghton Library of Harvard University: Jewett, Sarah Orne, 1849-1909. 3 letters; 1891-1907., 1891-1907. George Edward Woodberry correspondence and compositions I. Letters to George Edward Woodberry Jewett, Sarah Orne, 1849-1909. 3 letters; 1891-1907., 1891-1907. Box: 4: MS Am 1587, (121). This transcription is from a photocopy held by the Maine Women Writers Collection, Burton Trafton Collection, Box 2, folder 87.

Sarah Orne Jewett to Georgina Lowell Putnam

148 Charles Street
Boston Jany 8th
[*1904*]*

My dear Mifs Putnam

I have wished so many times to answer your kind note and to tell you myself, though Mrs. Fields had given my Christmas message, how delighted I was with that charming cushion, and still more with your remembrance. It did my heart good to have you say that you were on the way to Green Island!* That story book place has seemed

[*Page 2*]

[seemed *repeated*] strangely real to me ever since I have been ill, and sometimes I [have *corrected*] wished that I could go to Dunnet Landing, and stay with Mrs. Todd until I felt quite strong and well again. You see that Mrs. Fields has gone to Italy, and I have stayed behind. I was* so glad to have her sail away from this cold weather which always pulls her down; but the doctor insisted that what was the

[*Page 3*]

very best thing for her was the worst thing for me. My head does not seem inclined to forget the blow, and any jarring of trains or carriages still makes me quite miserable. I did manage to get to town and I am better for the change so that I am staying on — to be with a friend at 34 Beacon St.* next week, where I am quite at home and quiet — [*deleted word*] then I shall come back here for a little longer. I cannot get used to so idle a life

[*Page 4*]

for I never imagined getting on with so little reading or writing — as for 'rithmetic, I never counted much upon that! I wish so much for a day when I can see you again but I send my love at any rate and I wish you a New year wish with all my heart —

Yours very affectionately
Sarah O. Jewett

Notes

1904: This date is confirmed by Jewett mentioning Annie Fields's trip to Italy, which took place in winter 1904. In the date, Jewett has corrected the number 7 to read 8. In *Annie Adams Fields,* Judith Roman notes that Fields traveled to Sicily without Jewett in 1904 (p. 152).

Green Island: This Maine island in Jewett's *The Country of the Pointed Firs* (1896), is the residence of Almira Todd's mother, Mrs. Blackett, and of Todd's brother, William.

was: Jewett has written both "was" and "am," one over the other. It is not clear which she intended.

34 Beacon St.: The Boston address of Susan Burley Cabot. Key to Correspondents.

The manuscript of this letter is held by the Huntington Library, San Marino, CA, in the Spence and Lowell Family Papers: mss SL 262 (1-4).

Mary Augusta Ward to Sarah Orne Jewett

Jan 16

[*1904*]*

[*Begin letterhead*]
25, GROSVENOR PLACE. S.W.
[*End letterhead*]

Dear Mifs Jewett —

I am so distressed to hear from Madame Blanc how ill you still are in consequence of the effects of that accident* from which I had been [told *?*] you had now entirely [recovered *corrected*]. Dear kind friend — it does give me so much pain to think of you as suffering and disabled. I do hope that this letter may find

[*Page 2*]

you better, & that the spring will see you returned to your old health & energy. Are you likely to be coming over to Europe I wonder — and to Italy — in search of sunshine? We hope to be established a while at Cadenabbia in May & June, in a pleasant villa, and if we could welcome you there for a few restful days ^— or weeks —^, how happy I should

[*Page 3*]

be! It makes a delightful stopping place on the way out or home, — and we would take every care of you. I have such faith in Italy the enchantress, & I always turn to her so instinctively, in illness, that I feel as if you too must be dreaming of her. Do let me know!

The past year has been rather eventful for us in our Janet's engagement

[*Page 4*]

to George Trevelyan,* Sir George's youngest son — the most happy engagement where everything* seems to fit in a [marvellous *so spelled*] way — And I have just begun a new book, & am going to Canenabbia on its account — after the wedding.

But I would write you much gossip if I knew that you were well enough to care for it. How is M^rs^

[*Cross written up the left margin and across the top half of page 1, and then up the left margin*]

Fields & where? It has been one of the joys of 'Lady Rose'* that it has made me acquainted with Madame Blanc to whom I am indebted for a brilliant translation & every sort of personal kindness —

Believe me dear Mifs Jewett
always affectionately
Mary A. Ward

Dorothy* is at this moment on her way home from [Pretoria *?*] or she would join me in greetings to you, and good wishes.

Notes

1904: The choice of this date is supported by Ward's announcement of the anticipated wedding of her daughter, Janet.

accident: Ward refers to Jewett's long and never completed recovery from a carriage accident in September 1902.

George Trevelyan: In April 1904. Ward's daughter, author and activist, Janet Penrose Trevelyan (1879-1956) married British academic historian, George Macaulay Trevelyan (1876-1962).

everything: Ward sometimes seems to write "g" for "ing." I render these as "ing."

'Lady Rose': *Lady Rose's Daughter* (1903). Ward's next novel was *The Marriage of William Ashe* (1905).

Dorothy: Ward's daughter, Dorothy Ward. Key to Correspondents.

The manuscript of this letter is held by the Houghton Library of Harvard University: Sarah Orne Jewett Correspondence I, Letters to Sarah Orne Jewett. Ward, Mary Augusta (Arnold) 1851-1920. 7 letters; 1893-1904 & [n.d.]. bMS Am 1743 (228). This transcription is from a photocopy held by the Maine Women Writer's Collection, University of New England, Letters from Sarah Orne Jewett, 1875-1890, Box 2, Folder 97, Burton Trafton Jewett Research Collection.

Sarah Orne Jewett to Mary Rice Jewett

Sunday night
[*31 January 1904*]*

Dear Mary

Yesterday I had a nice drive — out by Fenway Court* and back with no “damage to crops”. I begin to feel as if the best investment I could have made in early youth would have been a large accident insurance policy — then all the times I have been laid up would have brought in a handsomer revenue than even the pursuit of Letters. To-day might have come under such a head for I had let some body come up whom I didn’t so much wish to see and Mrs. Whitman came in a minute afterward. I just sent her word, as I found that she hadn’t got out of the carriage, but it was a calamity. Alice Howe* was here in the morning; she has been housed by the cold & snow but looked very well and peaceful, and never was better company. Late in the afternoon Ellen Mason* was here and so pathetic over the loss of Julie Nevins!* I really felt a sympathy that I never expected to feel — they were little playmates in Paris. Then I shouldn’t have seen anybody else but Elise* appeared, so dear and affectionate. She is going to Philadelphia for a fortnight on Tuesday, and was very sorry not to have seen you but though she meant to the hours flew by, and she had little time for the size of the place evidently. It has been a very quiet day today, but after so much going on yesterday I could not get asleep until very late and felt rather tired. Nobody

came to dinner so perhaps Mr. Thiddy went home. I hope Toesy* didn't catch a swelled faced from one who was so troubled. You know he had one once Aunt Mary.* (This little wad is some candy for a good little dog. You can have the little peppermint one!) There was a great turkey today — a perfectly delicious one — so <u>any one</u> lost much who didn't come. I suppose Lucy Lee wont come into town now that Mr. Parks is going away.* --- I have found out at last that Eleanor Hopkinson has got a baby near a fortnight old, by the name of Harriot for Mrs. Curtis.* Elise told me yesterday, but that is all the news I can think of. I must now go to bed — so good night. I send back all these letters which turned up in one place and another. You will know which to keep. <u>Monday</u> — no news — but a snow-eater fog! Mrs. Perkins* is not coming to-day, so good bye from an affectionate

S.O.J.

Please get the money.

Notes

31 January 1904: This date is based upon Jewett reporting the recent death of Julie Nevins, which took place in January of 1904 and that the newborn Harriot Hopkinson is nearly two weeks old.

Fenway Court: The home of Isabella Stewart Gardner. Key to Correspondents. Also nearby was the Fenway Studios building, where Charles Hopkinson and other artists known to Fields and Jewett had studios.

Alice Howe: Alice Greenwood Howe. Key to Correspondents.

Ellen Mason ... the loss of Julie Nevins: See Ellen Frances Mason in Key to Correspondents.

Julie Fanchette Henriette Du Gay Nevins (d. January 1904), wife of Henry Coffin Nevins (1843-1892).

Elise: for Elizabeth Russell Tyson, see Emily Davis Tyson in Key to Correspondents.

Toesy: A Jewett family dog.

Lucy Lee ... Mr. Parks: Lucy Lee's identity remains unknown, though she is mentioned in another letter from after 1904, possibly as a friend of Theodore Eastman. Mr. Parks also has not been identified.

Mrs. Curtis: The painter Charles Sydney Hopkinson (1869-1962) married Elinor Curtis. Among their children was Harriot Hopkinson Rive (17 January 1904-2005). Elinor's mother was Harriet Sumner Curtis. See also *Harvard College Class of 1891 Secretary's Report* (1911, p. 114).

Mrs. Perkins: Probably Edith Forbes Perkins. Key to Correspondents.

This text is from transcriptions from mixed repositories in the Maine Women Writer's Collection, University of New England, Letters from Sarah Orne Jewett, 1875-1890, Folder 73, Burton Trafton Jewett Research Collection.

Sarah Orne Jewett to Julia Ward Howe

Wednesday
34 Beacon Street
[*January / February 1904*]*

Dearest Mrs. Howe

We are always deploring the loss of that dinner and the possession of so much cold weather when every "Br. Tarrypin"* has to "lay low" — Why didn't they catch the Gulf Stream and tether it when it was so close in-shore last winter? — there's a large Scientific proposition for you [*deletion*] my dear young friend! — I have excellent

[*Page 2*]

news from our Annie Fields who is due in Rome today (I think) after a most lovely three weeks in Sicily. I told her if she went near the Vale of Enna to be sure to take Cassie* with her! and she does seem to have [to have *repeated*] had a most satisfying journey except that she couldn't get to Cefalu* as she very much wished to do. She went straight down to Girgenti and then round to Siracusa and Taormina — where she properly observed that

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it was no use to try to write <u>anything</u> in a letter! but I could tell that she was enjoying the wonderful view beyond all her hopes and dreams of a life time. She didn't say as much of Siracusa as I hoped — perhaps she thought that the Retreat had said everything for all time — and so it has! I got the Thucydides (Jowett's)* from the Athenaeum since she went away and read it again — She had it too before she went away, but what can that story be to those who can read it in Greek; the ships, the siege, the high hopes — 'all the misery of failure

[*Page 4*]

and deep despair'. And under the exquisite sky — with all the colour of sea and shore . .

Yes, I feel all that you say about the Story, Life, but Mr. James* made me feel too how childish all that impatience was with their own country, how blind they were in not seeing that its faults were only the hopeful impatient faults of youth. He begins to write as an older man, and with a changed point of view. With him and his subject ^Mr. Story^ I feel the effect of personal conditions. I have read some weeks ago (when I

[*Page 5*]

could read better,) The Ambassadors Mr. H. James's last novel — and thought it is a very large fine piece of work . --- But you saw things as they were in that earlier time and as they were going to be. Oh yes, I love to think of the different note in the Reminiscences* — Mrs. Cabot* has gone back

[*Page 6*]

so many times to our beginning of talk the day you came to luncheon — about the hearing at the State House and all, and I can see that she longs to go on with it, your visit was the greatest pleasure — but only a beginning — especially about Mr. Parker! I felt as if I were a

[*Page 7*]

supernumerary house-fly capable only of teasing interruption — you ought to have been Alone Together and then what things would have said themselves! No audience (to speak of) next time! ----

I am glad to tell you that I feel much stronger for the change of coming to town and

[*Page 8*]

I get on much better in some ways, if you can call it getting on. I cant do much. If you only knew how I keep wishing to see you again, dear — I really long for a Thaw! Give my love to Maud.*

Yours always

Sarah

Notes

1904: Annie Adams Fields traveled on her own to Italy in the winter of 1904. Key to Correspondents.

"Br. Tarrypin": Jewett refers to the "Uncle Remus" story of "Bre'r Rabbit," a folktale adapted by American journalist and folklorist, Joel Chandler Harris (1848-1908). His two collections of "Uncle Remus" stories were *Uncle Remus: His Songs and His Sayings* (1880) and *Nights with Uncle Remus* (1883).

Enna ... Cassie: Enna is a commune in Sicily. In some versions of the ancient Greek myth, Persephone was abducted from the Valley of Enna. Cassie was a Fields employee.

Cefalu: The Sicilian town of Cefalù features ancient architecture, including a Temple of Diana.

Girgenti is a town near Rome, but it seems likely Jewett is confused. It would seem more likely that Fields went first to Agrigento in Sicily, a town famous for its ancient Greek ruins.

Thucydides (Jowett's): Thucydides (c. 460- c. 400 BC) was an ancient Greek historian, author of *History of the Peloponnesian War*. Benjamin Jowett's translation appeared in 1881. Jowett (1817-1893) was a British educator and classical scholar.

Jewett recalls the account of the Sicilian Expedition of 415-413 BC, in which an Athenian siege of Syracuse failed disastrously. Wikipedia.

James: Henry James. Key to Correspondents. His *William Wetmore Story and his Friends: From Letters, Diaries, and Recollections,* in two volumes, appeared in 1903-1904. His novel, *The Ambassadors*, appeared in 1903.

Reminiscences: Howe published her *Reminiscences* in 1899.

Mrs. Cabot: Susan Burley Cabot. Key to Correspondents.

Mr. Parker: The Massachusetts General Court hearing that interested Cabot and Howe is not yet known. Among the topics discussed in the legislature in 1903 there were bills concerning temperance, pauperism, neglected children, hospital, rail and road construction, sanitation, and many other topics likely to be of immediate interest to Cabot and Howe.

If Mr. Parker was involved in these discussions, he probably was Republican politician Fordis Clifford Parker (1868-1945), who served in the Massachusetts House of Representatives (1901-1904). In 1903, he was Chair of the House Ways and Means Committee.

However, Cabot and Howe would also remember and may have talked about the American minister and abolitionist, Theodore Parker (1810-1860).

Maud: Howe's granddaughter. See Laura Richards in Key to Correspondents.

The manuscript of this letter is held by the Houghton Library of Harvard University, Cambridge, MA. bMS Am 1743.1 Sarah Orne Jewett Additional Correspondence II. Letters from

Sarah Orne Jewett, Box 4 (119).

Kate Douglas Wiggin Riggs to Sarah Orne Jewett

[Feb'y *?*] 12.1904]*
[*Begin letterhead*]
165 West 58th Street
[*End letterhead*]

My dear Miss Jewett

It gives me a thrill of joy to learn you are staying with dear Mrs. Cabot* at the house, & in the sunny front-room, where I have passed happy hours! I hope you are at last growing stronger and that before very

[*Page 2*]

long that we shall read something lovely in the Atlantic that has been written since your "shake-up"* which has cost you, & your readers, so dear.

I am hoping to come to Boston somewhere about the 18th or 20th, for four or five

[*Page 3*]

days and it would it would be a comfort if you feel well enough to see me.

I have not been out for ten days because of a light but [persevering *?*] attack of grippe, which hangs on & on, & permits me to make no plans. If I suggest Boston the Doctor will put his foot down

[*Page 4*]

and insist on Carolina or Florida.

With many remembrances to Mrs. Cabot & much love to your dear self I am

Truly yours
Kate W Riggs

Notes

1904: An envelope associated with this letter is addressed to Jewett, c/o Mrs. Cabot, 34 Beacon St., Boston, MA, and canceled on 12 February 1904.

Cabot: Susan Burley Cabot. Key to Correspondents.

"shake-up": A reference to Jewett's permanently debilitating accident in September 1902.

The manuscript of this letter is held by the Houghton Library of Harvard University in Sarah Orne Jewett, Correspondence, MS Am 1743, Item 236, Wiggin, Kate Douglas (Smith) 1856-1923. 7 letters; 1902-[1905]. This transcription is from a photocopy held by the Maine Women Writers Collection, The Burton Trafton Papers, Box 2, Folder 98.

Sarah Orne Jewett to Alice Meynell

34, Deacon Street,*
Boston ,
12th. February
[*1904*]*

My dear Mrs Meynell — What a joy it is to love people who write. T^h^en one reads every printed thing like a most intimate letter — no, like a talk together in the dusk! And so [I *corrected*] have been much with you of late. Only yesterday I was reading you^r^ wise and delightful opinions of Miss Fanny Burney.* The wonderful Monthly Review poem, "The Two Childhoods",* has been flying on its wings in every room where I sat all winter. Mrs Fields and I had it before she sailed, and have it still, so deep into our life it goes. Sometimes such a poem as that is like the few words that one may happen to hear said: the person who speaks is all behind them with all her life and love and knowledge — but this is just what I meant when I began! And I have come to know you so much better because one comes to know the author of that perfectly delightful Life of Beaconsfield.* O that most uncommon, most original, and deep feeling and far seeing book. I should like to send my best thanks for it. I can read very little; it is harder than ever to hold my mind to anything. Last year I ~~c~~*could read even better than before I was hurt* (sometimes, I mean: this will amuse you !) but the doctors ~~s~~ say that this dullness is a far more promising state than those days of excitement were. Yes, I read very little nowadays, and the days go heavily by reason of it, but I begin to hope for

[*Page 2*]

better things. Do You know that dear Mrs Fields is in your Italy — just now at Palermo, but next month she goes to Rome (Cari Sebasti and Reale)* and she is hoping and hoping to see you before she comes back. Do send your child to see her [if *typed over* in] she goes to Rome. [34 *corrected*], via Porta Pinciana is the f~~i~~riend's house (full of music) where she will be staying. "The sun is shining like summer in Palermo", this is my [news *corrected from* mews], but oh what a villain of a month of January she left behind. [Iwas *so typed*] so happy at the thought of sunshine — here I should have watched her grow paler and [

paler *corrected*] from staying indoors. I am with a very dear old friend [I am with a very dear old friend *repeated*], who is your friend and reader too; but soon I must be got back to the country. If you know how I dread the little journey! I am a poor creature indeed, lame and dull and everything, but once in a while I seem to come all right, as if my mind were a Japanese puzzle that does itself right unexpectedly. I have had delightful and friendly letters from Mr Edward Garrett* thanks to you. I wish that he liked my poor Tory Lover. You were so kind about it, I never shall forget. It is not so bad as they think it. Goodbye dear, dear friend, with true love and delight in you and what you do.

S. O. J.

Notes

1904: In the winter of 1904, Annie Adams Fields traveled to Italy on her own, Jewett being too ill to travel, still suffering the debilitation following her September 1902 carriage accident.

Street: The source of this double-spaced typescript is not known. Jewett may have typed it or had it typed, but in the original, "Beacon Street" (the address of Jewett's friend, Susan Burley Cabot, is spelled "Deacon Street," an error neither she nor her probable typist, Abbie S. Beede, would likely let stand. Still, if Jewett did type it herself, it is more likely to contain the typing errors.

Because Jewett *may* have typed it herself, I have rendered it as she typed it, showing but not correcting the errors and leaving the hyphens she intends as dashes.

For Cabot and Beede, Key to Correspondents.

Miss Fanny Burney: British author, Frances Burney (1752-1840).

Meynell's poem, "Two Childhoods" appeared in the British periodical, *The Monthly Review* 13 (1903): 168-9.

Life of Beaconsfield: Meynell's husband, Wilfrid Meynell (1852-1948), authored *Benjamin Disraeli, An Unconventional Biography* (1903). Disraeli (1804-1881) was the First Earl of Beaconsfield.

I c: The typist has used an x to delete an error. When she does this or makes other deletions, I render the letters I believe were deleted using the strike-through format.

(Cari Sebasti and Reale): Sebasti & Reale was a major international bank in Rome, established in 1893. Like other large banks, this one provided international mail pick-up service.

Edward Garrett: This is a typing error. For Edward Garnett, Key to Correspondents. Garnett's "Miss Sarah Orne Jewett's Tales" (1903) provided an overview of Jewett's career in fiction. He thought her longer works, aside from *The Country of the Pointed Firs* (1896), not especially successful, particularly *The Tory Lover* (1901).

This typescript is held by the Greatham Library, in West Sussex, UK, owned by Oliver Hawkins, great grandson of Alice Meynell. A copy has been provided by independent scholar and editor of *The Selected Letters of Alice Meynell*, Damian Atkinson.

Sarah Orne Jewett to Harriet Jackson Lee Morse*

Sunday morning
[*13 February 1904*]*
[*Begin letterhead*]
South Berwick.
Maine.
[*End letterhead*]

Dearest Mrs. Morse

I really felt very sorry not to get to see you and dear Fanny. You see it was partly a matter of pride, but I must own myself outdone — you came to see me! and I can still see your two faces in the pretty carriage as you drove away. When I come back bye and bye, I shall make an early start and surprise you before you can know I am there! I am not going to be beaten next time.

— I wish that you could see the

[*Page 2*]

country now with such huge heaps of snow, as if we were making up for having so little in Berwick in the early winter — When I went to town the week before Christmas I left the hills as brown as squirrels and found good sleighing in Boston streets. I mean to get out as much as possible [*stray mark ?*] while the snow lasts for I like runners better than wheels — but it has been very cold and windy. I think of all the errands I can at the good little shops here [in *?*] the village — When Mrs. Howe* comes — J.W.H — she goes to "Stacys" and "Willards"

[*Page 3*]

and falls before their pleasing temptations — we have great fun about it! — but one does see the pins and handkerchiefs with beautiful borders, right within reach of one's hands. I wish you and I could go on a trading voyage together: wouldn't

we make each other beautiful presents? — oh I should buy you everything you wanted, my little dear! Sometime I must tell you about a nice person who kept a true Cranford shop,* and used to say such nice things to a customer. Miss Morrill; round and short like a stand-up pincushion — you expected to buy pins right off her shoulders --- I wonder what you and F. are reading? You

[*Page 4*]

told me of a delightful Life of Mr — Flower. I remember — I find myself going back to old favorites, I can still read so little, and next thing I think I must get down Mrs. Kemble's Journals(,) Tom Brown at Rugby — is what I am busy with now — a little at a time and it is one of those few dear books that are always better with every reading. I hope Gwen* likes it as I do? Good bye dear — you were so good to come and see me. I often think about it.

Always yours and F's very affectionate
S.O.J.

I am sorry to write so badly but after a little while my hands go to sleep { — } they are very lazy things! and stumble along

[*Up the left margin of page 1*]

as you see! But never mind, all these things are small if one only make them so to meself!

Notes

Morse: See Frances (Fanny) Rollins Morse in Key to Correspondents.

13 February 1904: This varies from the date that is penciled in another hand at the top left of page 1, 13 February 1903. This letter seems likely to have been composed between 1904 and 1908, and I have placed it in the earliest likely year. If Jewett really refers to a biography of Sir William Flower, the earliest one was *Sir William Henry Flower* (1904) by C. J. Cornish. The next was *Sir William Flower* (1906) by Richard Lydekker. Sir William Henry Flower (1831-1899), an English surgeon, museum curator and comparative anatomist.

Mrs. Howe: Julia Ward Howe. Key to Correspondents.

"Stacys" and "Willards": Wendy Pirsig in *The Placenames of South Berwick* (2007) does not list retailers by these names, nor has further research revealed such businesses in South Berwick. In a letter to Sarah Orne Jewett of 3 August 1889, Mary Rice Jewett mentions Jane Morrill, who may be the Miss Morrill mentioned here. FamilySearch identifies a likely Jane Morrill: "When Jane Morrill was born on 6 April 1816, in Eliot, York, Maine, United States, her father, William Morrell, was 30 and her mother, Mary Emery, was 21. She died on 10 April 1898, in South Berwick, York, Maine, United States, at the age of 82."

Cranford shop: Jewett refers to the novel, *Cranford* (1853) by British author Elizabeth Gaskell (1810-1865). The book is set in the fictional rural Cheshire village of Cranford.

Rugby: Frances (Fanny) Kemble (1809-1893) was a British actor and author. Her *Journal of a Residence on a Georgian Plantation* (1838-1839) was an important document in the movement to abolish slavery in the U.S.

Better known in the U.S. as *Tom Brown's School Days* (1857), *Tom Brown at Rugby* is by British author and politician, Thomas Hughes (1822-1896).

Gwen: Frances Rollins Morse was the sister of Dr. Henry Lee Morse (1852-1929). He married Jessie Frances Lizzie Scott (1860-1909). Their only known child, Harriet Morse's granddaughter, was Gwendolyn (1886-1968). Family Search.

The manuscript of this letter is held by the Houghton Library of Harvard University, Cambridge, MA. bMS Am 1743.1 (123) Box 4, II. Letters from Sarah Orne Jewett.

Sarah Orne Jewett to Alice French

34 Beacon Street
Sunday
[*February 1904*]*

Dear Alice French

Your lovely valentines are all hung with invisible hearts, the daffies and tulips each wear one! How good you were! — You gave dear Mrs. Cabot a real pleasure on a dull day, and I found my voice choking a little as I tried to read

[*Page 2*]

her valentine verse — made for her, and mine too.

- I quite grudge you both the six weeks for the plantation —

Yours affectionately
S. O. J.

Notes

1904: A penciled note on the manuscript indicates that there is an envelope associated with this letter that provides this date.

The letter must have been composed after French probably first met Susan Burley Cabot (Key to Correspondents) during her 1899 visit in New England, as described by George L. McMichael, in his biography of French, *Journey to Obscurity: the Life of Octave Thanet* (1965, p. 158).

The manuscript of this letter is held by the Newberry Library, Chicago, IL, in the Alice French Papers, Modern Manuscripts, Series 1: Correspondence, approximately 1892-1932: File — Box: 1, Folder: 13.

Louise Imogen Guiney to Annie Adams Fields

57 S. John's Road, Oxford. Feb. 17, 1904.

Dearest Mrs. Fields:

Even apart from the delight of hearing from you, and knowing that you are better, and nearer me than you were, you cannot imagine how exciting it is to me to get a letter stamped Taormina! For what reason I know not, I have always had a particular obsession for the name and the place, since I first read Newman's raptures* over it which he wrote in 1833. It cannot have changed; it must still be a wonder and a glory. You say you can look on Aetna through almond blossoms: I get a romantic thrill in this grey lowland out of the news. The best of all is that you can do it, and that you are doing it; but like you, I am aware of Miss Jewett's empty place at your side. What a weary year for her! I doubt not, with her brave quiet philosophy, but that she is busy nursing the dwindling faculty of joy. Alas, I can't to save me, give you the correct reference

[*Page 2*]

for the line. It is strikingly like W. Watson,* but I do not think it can be. At least I have just searched carefully and in vain, though Wordsworth's Grave and Lachrymae Musarum,* the two poems where, metrically, it might well figure. You see I am not a bit wise in modernities. I immensely admire much current verse, but I cannot remember it, by some twist, as I remember the old. Mrs. Meynell's* poem I saw: a flawless jewel it is. Do you remember how long ago I used to tell you at Manchester that your two spirits had very much in common? One could guess that, with however brief or interrupted opportunity of comparison.

Are you not returning home by way of England? I do so hope so. A glimpse of you would be good indeed, but the first and only thing to be thought of, as the journalists say, 'in this connection', is whether it would not bring in some element of weariness or relaxation into what would otherwise be a perfect recovery. Dio sia con voi.*

I have an old Everett

[*Page 3*]

school-fellow living hard by, Florence Crocker,* long of Cambridge, a strong cheery spirit, who must be, I think, a remote kinswoman of yours, as her father's mother was a Boylston. She loves Oxford as I do, for its utter peace, its absence of fashion, and its dull nerve-quieting air. As she has no 'call' to grind after my Bodleian fashion, she fills her days with work in the study of Middle English and literature generally. My Mother loves her. The latter lady is well, but a bit depressed over the weather, and no wonder as it has been phenomenally, uniquely bad, beating all records. Since New Year's, counting today, there have been forty-eight days; and it has rained on forty-five, and rained hard too. The whole countryside is flooded; and there are not a score of streams in Oxfordshire now, but one vast cruel most picturesque sea. Think of that in your Sicilian sunshine, and pity poor Britons, and still more, exiled anti-Imperialists.* Mother sends you ever so much

[*Page 4*]

love, and wishes me to say that she wanted to bid you goodbye last October, but found the house closed when she got down to Charles Street; also that she has an ever-fresh remembrance of all your kindness to her when she was in town alone.

I slip in a prospectus of a publisher who is a good bibliographer and critic to show you what some of my minor chores are. The books are as pretty as they can be, and six for a half-crown! I am to do a Hazlitt* this year for Hodder and Stoughton.* The other day brought a dear letter from Miss Whitney.* She is evidently full of health and ideas again, and writes as playfully as may be. Sometime when you feel like looking at fiction, will you not read Beulah Dix's Blount of Breckenhow? a story of the Caroline Civil Wars, ingeniously wrought in the form of ^historical documents:^ letters and a diary. A noble story, I think you will say it is. The girl who wrote it is a Radcliffe

graduate, and lives on Larch St. in Cambridge, and is herself a silent heroic little trooper like her Blount. I am a newly-elected parish librarian at our exquisite Church here, and am betaking myself there this moment, to see about a

[*Up the left margin of page 4*]

fresh catalogue. There are but one thousand books, but all very good. I can't

[*Up the right margin of page 4*]

really spare the time for it, but I will. Most affectionately yours, L. I. Guiney

Notes

Newman's raptures: British theologian, priest and author, John Henry, Cardinal Newman (1801-1890). For his account of his 1833 travels in Sicily, see *Letters and Correspondence of John Henry Newman During His Life in the English Church* (1920), pp. 300 ff.

W. Watson: The line Fields and Guiney want to identify remains unknown.

W. Watson is British poet Sir William Watson (1858-1935). His books included *Wordsworth's Grave and Other Poems* (1890) and *Lachrymae Musarum* (1892).

Mrs. Meynell's: Alice Meynell. Key to Correspondents.

voi: Italian: God be with you.

Florence Crocker: Guiney had part of her childhood education at Everett Grammar School in Boston. Florence Crocker has not been identified. Possibly, she was American author, Florence Crocker Comfort; while she published several works between 1918 and 1944, little else about her has yet been discovered.

Bodleian fashion: The Bodleian Library is the main research library of Oxford University.

anti-Imperialists: The American Anti-Imperialist League was established in Boston in 1898 in response to the Spanish-American War and the annexation of the Philippines. It is not clear whether Guiney refers to this organization or to other contemporary problems with imperialism, such as Anglo-Irish relations.

Hazlitt ...Hodder and Stoughton: It is not yet known to which publications Guiney refers. She is not known to have published about British author William Hazlitt (1778-1830) after her 1895 essay collection, *A Little English Gallery*.

Miss Whitney: American sculptor Anne Whitney (1821-1915)

Blount of Breckenhow: Beulah Marie Dix (1876-1970) was an American author and playwright, as well as a screenwriter. One of her many novels was *The Life, Treason and Death of James Blount of Breckenhow* (1903).

The Caroline period of English history was during the reign of King Charles I, including most of the English Civil War (1642-1651), during which King Charles was executed.

The manuscript of this letter is held by the Huntington Library, San Marino, CA, in the James T. Fields collection Box 26: mss FI 1631.

Sarah Orne Jewett to Mr. Jamieson*

34 Beacon Street
Boston Feb^{y} 23rd
[*1904*]*

My dear Mr. Jamieson

Your letter gives me great pleasure and brings up many pleasant and affectionate associations. Indeed I remember you and your dear mother whose kindness and gentleness none of her friends could easily forget. —

— I should like very much to see you and Mrs. Jamieson and to answer your letter without writing, but I have never got over a bad accident of more

[*Page 2*]

than a year ago, and though I have come to Town for a change, I am obliged to be very careful about keeping quiet.

I have only the copy of Mrs. Thaxter's* book that she gave me, and I do not know of another, which could be bought, but I think if you go to Mr. Sullivan* at Little and Brown's that he can find one for you, certainly by waiting a little; and you might leave an order, also, at Bartlett's* in Cornhill where they deal chiefly in secondhand books. Sometimes at the bookstores in smaller cities one can find a book like that and in much better condition.

Believe me yours most sincerely,
S. O. Jewett

Notes

1904: Richard Cary assigned the letter this date, presumably upon the ground that Jewett says her 1902 carriage accident took place more than a year ago.

Jamieson: The identify of Mr. Jamieson remains unknown.

It seems possible that Jewett is writing to a son of Canadian-born American author, Cecilia Viets Dakin Jamison (1840- 11 April 1909). Though her name is spelled "Jamison" in her books, it was fairly common during her lifetime to find her books advertised as by "C. V. Jamieson." Mrs. Jamison was likely well-known by Jewett and Fields, a popular writer and artist living after 1902 in Roxbury, MA, having published with Ticknor and Fields and in many of the magazines where Jewett published. However, no evidence has been found that she had a son.

Another potential recipient is "John Franklin Jameson (September 19, 1859 - September 28, 1937) ... an American historian, author, and journal editor who played a major role in the professional activities of American historians in the early 20th century" (Wikipedia). His mother was Mariette Thompson Jameson (1838-1924).

Thaxter's: Celia Laighton Thaxter. Key to Correspondents.

Cary notes:

> Two books by Celia Thaxter are inscribed to Miss Jewett by the author: *Poems*, 11th ed. (Boston, 1883), and *An Island Garden* (Boston, 1894). One of Mrs. Thaxter's poems in manuscript, "Vesper," hangs in a frame with her photograph in the breakfast room of the Memorial House at South Berwick.

Bartlett's: Cary writes:

> N. J. Bartlett & Company was the most fully stocked of the several bookstores on Cornhill Street, Beacon Hill east of Scollay Square. Here could be obtained new theological works, fine books by discriminating presses, standard sets of English authors from the seventeenth to the nineteenth centuries, a few first editions, and the run of Georgian and Victorian volumes. Little, Brown & Company, located on Washington Street near the Boston *Globe* building, offered somewhat the same assortment. Both catered to the gentleman of moderate means intent on a general library rather than to the special collector.

The manuscript of this letter is held by Colby College Special Collections, Waterville, ME: JEWE.1. Richard Cary included his transcription in *Sarah Orne Jewett Letters.* New transcription and notes.

Harriet Mann Miller to Sarah Orne Jewett

827 DeKalb Ave
Brooklyn, New York
[*2 March 1904*]

My dear Miss Jewett:

I have just got out a book* of Maine Studies, with a sentence of yours for sending ???. You are so associated with Maine in my thoughts — and I am so proud of that state — that I venture to send you a copy, hoping that you may enjoy the selections, by one who loves the Pine-

[*Page 2*]

Tree State almost as much as you do yourself.

Cordially yours
Olive Thorne Miller

March 2d 1904

Notes

book: In the folder with this manuscript is a note that reads: "Taken from With the birds in Maine. Olive Thorne Miller." This book opens with a Jewett quotation describing a spot on the coast of Maine, from Jewett's "By the Morning Boat" (1890).

The manuscript of this letter is held by the Houghton Library of Harvard University, Cambridge, MA. bMS Am 1743 Box 3, Item 154 I. Letters to Sarah Orne Jewett.

Mary Augusta Ward to Annie Adams Fields

March 9,
1904.

[*Begin letterhead*]*
25, GROSVENOR PLACE. S.W.
[*End letterhead*]

My dear Mrs Fields, I was delighted to get your last kind letter, and should have answered it before but for the bustle of our wedding preparations. Little Janet* is to be married at Oxford on the 19th, & we all have our hands very full just now. Thank you for your kind congratulations. It is a most happy marriage in all its present omens.

[*Page 2*]

George Trevelyan has inherited many of the Macaulay gifts — great historical ability, the warmest of hearts, & a remarkable high mindedness. And Janet understands & fits him wonderfully —

Alack! I shall not be in Rome I fear, this spring. We go to Venice after the wedding & then to our villa at Cadenabbia{.} If you are passing through in May & would rest a night with us, we

[*Page 3*]

we should be so enchanted to see you. Address from April 21. Villa Bonaventura Cadenabbia —

I have been so truly sorry to hear of dear Mifs Jewett's long suffering.* I do hope that she will soon be herself, & able once more to enjoy and make use of her delightful talent.

Thank you very much for what you say of 'Lady Rose'.* I hope the new book may find as many

[*Page 4*]

friends! But there are only 3 numbers done, & I am still in the nervous stage about it, obliged however to put it out of my thoughts as much as possible, till dear Jan's wedding is over.

Yes, I know beautiful Taormina & the Hills Villa. But we saw it in snow & storm — I am envious of your almond blossom! May Rome be sunny & kind to you also!

With affectionate regards
yours most [truly *?*]
Mary A. Ward

Notes

letterhead: Stamped in the upper left corner of page 1, on the diagonal: TELEPHONE, 560 VICTORIA.

Janet: Ward's daughter, author and activist, Janet Penrose Trevelyan (1879-1956). Her husband was British academic historian, George Macaulay Trevelyan (1876-1962).

suffering: Jewett's never completed recovery from a carriage accident in September 1902.

'Lady Rose': Ward's *Lady Rose's Daughter* appeared in 1903. Ward's next novel was *The Marriage of William Ashe* (1905).

The manuscript of this letter is held by the Houghton Library of Harvard University: Sarah Orne Jewett Correspondence I, Letters to Sarah Orne Jewett. Ward, Mary Augusta (Arnold) 1851-1920. 7 letters; 1893-1904 & [n.d.]. bMS Am 1743 (228). This transcription is from a photocopy held by the Maine Women Writer's Collection, University of New England, Letters from Sarah Orne Jewett, 1875-1890, Box 2, Folder 97, Burton Trafton Jewett Research Collection.

Sarah Orne Jewett to Edward Garnett

Boston March 10th
1904

[*Begin letterhead*]
34 Beacon Street.
[*End letterhead*]

My dear Mr Garnett

I have so long wished to write to you — Your review of The Ambassadors* was wonderfully good — I can hardly say how much I ^~~take~~^ delight in Mr. James's work. You shall not find me wanting in sympathy when you write such an appreciation — or failing now to read everything you write of books and men with eager interest. I have seen

[*Page 2*]

The Speaker* and some numbers of The Academy — — Alas, I have had [many *corrected*] weeks when I could read much less than I wished and with great dullness and difficulty of holding my mind to anything, but I am again coming to better weeks, and this most trying phase of the effect of my accident is fast disappearing. I had all Mrs. Garnetts* Editions

[*Page 3*]

of [Turgenieff *corrected, perhaps with a single "f"*] ready to hand with the delightful looking prefaces, just before I left the country, and I am already looking forward to getting back to them. The spring is coming on fast, after a hard winter.

--- --- This is but a word to say that I have not forgotten your kindness or the pleasure of reading what you write.

[*Page 4*]

— I sent on your letter to Messers Houghton Mifflin &co.* and I suppose they may be waiting for the time when I can be dealt with again upon business affairs! Believe me

yours most sincerely
S. O. Jewett

Was not Mrs. Meynell's Two Childhoods* in the Monthly Review a poem to take to ones heart?

— The Wordsworth and Dante — perhaps I have not remembered the name —

Notes

Ambassadors: American author, Henry James (Key to Correspondents) published his novel, *The Ambassadors* in 1903. Garnett's review appeared

in *The Speaker* new series 9 (14 November 1903): 146-7.

With this title and the magazine titles that follow, Jewett probably intended underlining the capitalized "The" with each, but she placed only a short line under the noun in each title.

Academy: *The Speaker* (1890-1907) was a British weekly review of politics, literature, science and the arts.

The Academy was a British weekly review of literature and general topics (1869-1902). In 1902-1915, it became *The Academy and Literature* and struggled to continue. Garnet published his overview of Jewett there in 1903: "Miss Sarah Orne Jewett's Tales."

Mrs. Garnetts: Constance Black Garnett (1861-1946) was a prolific English translator of nineteenth-century Russian literature. She translated much of the work of Ivan Turgenev (1818-1883) between 1894 and 1899. Edward Garnett authored at least some of the introductions, e.g. *Fathers and Children* (1895).

Meynell: Alice Meynell. Key to Correspondents. Her poem, "Two Childhoods" appeared in the British periodical, *The Monthly Review* 13 (1903): 168-9. The poem praises British poet William Wordsworth (1770-1850) and Italian poet, Dante Alighieri (c. 1265-1321), as examples of poets who carried into adulthood and their poetry the two childhood loves that Meynell says inspire all great poetry, love for nature and for a person.

Houghton, Mifflin: See Jewett to Houghton, Mifflin & Co. of 1 October 1904. In Jewett's letters to Garnett of 12 October 1903 and 2 October 1905, there is discussion of a possible new selection from Jewett's published short stories along the lines of *Tales of New England* (1890). Richard Cary describes the project as proposed in Garnett's letter of 31 August 1904:

> Garnett specifically proposes that Houghton Mifflin publish an edition of *The Best Tales of Sarah Orne Jewett,* the first volume to be an entirely new work; volumes II, III, and IV, *Selected Tales*; volume V*, The Country of the Pointed Firs.* "I believe that Duckworth would take a thousand copies of each volume if such an Edition could be arranged." (Colby College Library)

Such a project would have encountered difficulty with volume 1, for Jewett produced no new work after 1902. Perhaps a fifth volume could have contained uncollected stories, though it seems likely Jewett had before considered and rejected most of these for republication.

This manuscript is held by the Harry Ransom Humanities Research Center, University of Texas at Austin, Jewett, Sarah Orne, 1849-1909. 2 ALS, AL to Garnett, Edward, 1904-1905, undated; Edward Garnett Collection MS-1541. Container 9.1.

Annie Adams Fields to Mary Rice Jewett

148 Charles Street
Saturday.
[*March 1904*]*

Dear Mary,

Your letters from your cousins have given me a delightful picture of seaside life in winter of which we know too little. My cottage* is so essentially a summer perch that I never ever dream of it after November until June.

I was just about to write you about our visit next week from you to which we are looking

[*Page 2*]

forward when Mrs Tyson* at the telephone, after speaking of an appointment here for Mme Massenbach* etc., said she wanted you to make her a little visit, but the time was [*unrecognized word*] etc., and she had not been able to induce you to come.

Now, do be good to us both and prepare for a little longer stay by going first to Mrs Tyson

[*Page 3*]

for a couple of days from Tuesday until Thursday night or Friday morning and then coming for a week here. I think Sarah is comfortable and quiet now and I fancy it will be as well for her to stay where she is for a week longer.

Pray think this proposition over formally. Give my love to Katy* and thank

[*Page 4*]

{*her* } for wishing me to go back with you. Tell her that I am of no great use surely, but such as I am, having been away all last winter, I must stay now until April and attend to my little ship and its cargo.

Mrs Tyson is to have cousins to stay ^for^ some time the last of next week, ^Saturday^ but that is just the moment for a bit of a visit between now and then — so arrange for this "spree" dear Mary and please us both.

Affectionately yours
Annie Fields.

Notes

1904: This date is speculative. Annie Fields seems to have had a telephone already in 1884, as indicated in her 19 September 1884 letter to Eben Horsford. Emily Tyson became a regular contact in about 1899. The letter hints that Jewett's health has been poor, pointing toward 1903 or later. If Mme. Massenbach is correctly identified in the following notes, then 1904 would be a likely date for this letter.

my cottage: Fields refers to her Gambrel Cottage on Thunderbolt Hill in Manchester-by-the-Sea, where she resided most summers.

Mrs. Tyson: Emily Davis Tyson. Key to Correspondents.

Mme Massenbach: This transcription is quite uncertain. If it is correct, this may be the Dutch Baroness de Massenbach, who is known to have visited the United States in 1904.

> "Baroness de Massenbach of Holland, whose home is at The Hague, was in the city yesterday on her way from the Yellowstone park to St. Louis. She was with a party of twenty-two travelers who are "doing" the United States. Among the places visited was Minnehah Falls, which the baroness admired very much." *Minneapolis Journal* 25 July 1904, p. 7.

However, this is uncertain and no confirming information has been discovered.

Katy: Probably Katy Galvin. Key to Correspondents. However, Sarah Cabot Wheelwright also seems to have had a Katy working for her at this time.

The manuscript of this letter is held by Historic New England in Letters from Annie Fields to Mary Rice Jewett, Jewett Family Papers.

Annie Adams Fields to Lilian Aldrich

[*March 1904*]*

Dear Lily:

I stopped my messenger on his way with a card of remembrance, to you just to thank you and to say I shall put the violets in my dress presently where their odor shall tell me of your thoughts. Thank you, dear, for holding yourself so bravely and remembering us under the cloud of your ever present sorrow{.}

[*Page 2*]

I have been wishing to know that your cold is better. From your note I suppose, at least, you are not shut in your room.

Sarah has been here one week and a day suffering head ache all the time and chiefly shut in her room and bed.

She is more

[*Page 3*]

comfortable today and sends her thanks with mine to you both.

Affectionately
yours
Annie Fields.

Notes

1904: This date is based on Fields mentioning Jewett suffering from severe headaches and Lilian Aldrich's "ever present sorrow," which probably refers to the death of her son, Charles Frost Aldrich, on 6 March 1904. Fields traveled in Europe during January through March 1904. Her first letter from home in this collection was to George Woodbury on 18 April. The gift of violets suggests the letter was composed in April or later.

The manuscript of this letter is held by the Houghton Library of Harvard University: Thomas Bailey Aldrich Papers, MS Am 1429, Box 6, Items 1446-1538.

Annie Adams Fields to George Edward Woodberry

148 Charles Street
Boston April 18th 1904

Dear Mr. Woodberry:

Having small knowledge of my own I fell upon the great dictionary to learn that our French word means as I suggested "to beat all" but with the addition of beating all in impudence, impertinence, and fellow attributes. "Outrecrudence" seems to soften these rather out spoken accusations which spoken in English might bring one into ^[the *?*] police^ court!! But this opening is only to give me an excuse for

[*Page 2*]

speaking of your poem which I believe [firmly *?*] should be printed. If the [passages *?*] of half cooked [*unrecognized word*] for the intellectual palates of the moment, cannot see this, would it not be well to lay aside a portion of the poem, each small part as may not be necessary to the

progress and [communication *?*] of the poetic idea and try it on the public, keeping the rest for some time when the whole may appear in a book —

I think it is important for the author as for the public

[*Page 3*]

that true work, especially poetry should be allowed to appear. It will be a joy to someone as it was to the writer and many will have a lovely picture before their eyes, after reading the poems. Do try the Atlantic and Scribner before laying it aside.

We shall miss you this summer but when you return let us try to make up for much lost time. Mifs Jewett continues to improve and we have [now *?*] to look forward to many happy hours in the old library, where we shall delight to have you come and read or talk as often as you will. Mifs Jewett said "did you give him Charles Lamb's book* to look at"! She did not think much of me as a showman evidently{.}

[*Page 4*]

We shall be deeply interested to know whither the wings of fortune carry you. We <u>have</u> the vale of Enna{;} perhaps you will climb Delphi.* But poetry does not ask us to climb mountains nor seek for her too deeply{.} She will meet you somewhere on the road.

Goodbye
affectionately
From us both
Annie Fields —

Notes

Charles Lamb's book: Possibly, Jewett refers to Fields's *A Shelf of Old Books* (1894).

Delphi: Enna is a commune in Sicily. In some versions of the ancient Greek myth, Persephone was abducted from the Valley of Enna. Delphi is in Greece.

The manuscript of this letter is held by the Houghton Library of Harvard University: George Edward Woodberry correspondence and compositions I. Letters to George Edward Woodberry, Fields, Annie (Adams) 1834-1915. 65 letters; 1889-1914., 1889-1914. Box: 2, MS Am 1587, (71). This transcription is from a photocopy held by the Maine Women Writers Collection, Burton Trafton Collection, Box 2, folder 87.

Houghton Mifflin & Company to Sarah Orne Jewett

[*Begin letterhead*]
All letters, to ensure prompt attention, must be addressed to the Firm.

CHICAGO OFFICE 378-358 WABASH AVENUE.	BOSTON OFFICE, 4 PARK STREET.	*NEW YORK OFFICE, 85 FIFTH AVENUE*

HOUGHTON, MIFFLIN & COMPANY, Publishers.
Boston, April 27, 1904*
[*End letterhead*]

Miss Sarah Orne Jewett,
South Berwick, Maine.

Dear Madam: —

We desire to place the remaining copies of the Edition De Luxe of Lowell's works, so far as possible, with subscribers who have previously secured other limited editions of the American Authors. The edition of Lowell is uniform in typography with the editions of Emerson, Hawthorne and Fiske* previously issued, all of which were quickly sold and are now selling at a premium. As you are a subscriber to a part of the series, we feel sure you will fully appreciate the desirability of adding the set of Lowell to your collection, while it is possible to do so.

This edition is unique from the fact that it is the first issue of Lowell's Writings containing the Letters, delightfully interwoven with biographical information written by Lowell's friend and literary executor, Prof. Charles Eliot Norton. It is also the most beautifully illustrated edition of Lowell ever offered to the public.

We are willing to <u>reserve a set</u>, assigning to you the lowest available number at the time your order reaches us and hold delivery until the edition is complete in the Autumn, if that be your wish. Or, we will deliver immediately the six volumes that are now ready and the remainder of the set in the Autumn. If you would like to see a sample volume before definitely placing your order, kindly advise, and we will send it immediately.

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Yours very truly,
Houghton, Mifflin & Co.

Notes

1904: The date was typed in.

Fiske: For Charles Eliot Norton, and for James Russell Lowell and Ralph Waldo Emerson, Key to Correspondents. For American author, Nathaniel Hawthorne (1804-1864) and American philosopher and historian John Fiske (1842-1901), see Wikipedia.

The typescript of this letter is held by the Houghton Library of Harvard University: Sarah Orne Jewett Correspondence I, Letters to Sarah Orne Jewett. Houghton, Mifflin & Co., firm, publishers, Boston. 6 letters; 1891-1904.. (101). This transcription is from a photocopy held by the Maine Women Writer's Collection, University of New England, Letters from Sarah Orne Jewett, 1875-1890, Box 2, Folder 99, Burton Trafton Jewett Research Collection.

Elizabeth McCracken to Sarah Orne Jewett

[*11 May 1904*]*

My dear Miss Jewett: —

"The Country of the Pointed Firs"* has come to me; and I thank you for sending it, more than I can say. Since first I read it, I have [felt *?*] grateful to you for writing it, more than I can say.

My sister calls my books a "free private library", — because so many of them are given away. But I have a few volumes which I only lend and this treasure, of yours, from you, is already numbered with those few.

Thanking you once more, I am

Sincerely yours,
Elizabeth McCracken.

39 Jason Street
Arlington, May 11th, 1904.

Notes

"The Country of the Pointed Firs": Jewett's novel appeared in 1896.

The manuscript of this letter is held by the Houghton Library of Harvard University, Cambridge, MA. bMS Am 1743 Box 3, Item 142 I. Letters to Sarah Orne Jewett.

Kate Douglas Wiggin Riggs to Sarah Orne Jewett

[*May* ?] 28th 1904*

Ever dear Sarah Jewett

We have been in [these *?*] isles — my husband{,} my sister & I — since May 1st & we are sailing home tomorrow in the big new Baltic.*

It is fortunate that it is big for I have only just heard that Bowdoin has conferred an

[*Page 2*]

honorary degree upon me & the surprise, the unexpectedness & the honour, combined make me desire a very large place in which to spread myself.

I have just written President Hyde* that deeply impressed as I am to be the daughter of Bowdoin, I am [sure *?*]

[*Page 3*]

prouder & happier to be Sarah Jewett's sister!

And so I am, & I wish I were worthier! Still, so far as the degree is concerned, I have met as many as three men in my life, who possessed degrees & yet were quite dull & disagreeable!

[*Page 4*]

And how are you dear Miss Jewett? Did you go to commencement* & will you go next year & hold up my feeble knees when I don the cap? And may I come for a chat with you some time soon, [in *?*] Berwick, since I fear you ought not to take the tiring [dull *?*] journey to Hollis.* Please write me a [little *?*] line chère, where oh, joy! I hope to be by August [6th]! With affectionate regards to your sister I am [*unrecognized words*]

Kate Douglas Riggs

Notes

1904: The transcription of the entire date is uncertain, but because Riggs received her honorary degree from Bowdoin in late June 1904, and she has been in England since 1 May, this letter almost certainly is from May. It is puzzling that Riggs asks Jewett if she attended commencement and refers to her own degree as coming "next year." Which commencement she means is not clear.

Baltic: The *RMS Baltic* was an ocean liner of the White Star Line, new in 1904, at which time this was the world's largest ship and sailed between Liverpool and New York.

President Hyde: William De Witt Hyde. Key to Correspondents.

Hollis: Riggs's home in Hollis, ME.

The manuscript of this letter is held by the Houghton Library of Harvard University in Sarah Orne Jewett, Correspondence, MS Am 1743, Item 236, Wiggin, Kate Douglas (Smith) 1856-1923. 7

letters; 1902-[1905]. This transcription is from a photocopy held by the Maine Women Writers Collection, The Burton Trafton Papers, Box 2, Folder 98.

Maud Howe Elliot* to Sarah Orne Jewett

241 Beacon St May 31st
[1904]*

Very dear Sara;*

I write for mama who will write herself very soon to thank you for the wonderful chudder shawl* that came to her on her birthday from you. It is glorious in colour, exquisite in texture, and she is perfectly enchanted with it. I hope you will see her soon, sweet, wrapped up in the splendid thing. We got though the birthday party very well. She looked [looked *deleted with x's*] like a white rose. There were many [flow s *intended* flowers] and such a beautiful cake from dear Mrs Fields. Laura has gone down to Maine today, Rose [is Groton *so typed*], and Betty goes to [Pofret *intended* Pomfret *?*] tonight so the clan that gathered to greet the old Chieftainess on [her *corrected*] birthday, is now almost scattered, and the old daughter now remains and opens her pack of stories, sweet and sad, that she

[*Page 2*]

gathered together for the long evening talks, far and wide. I am such a [wanderedr *so typed*] that I miss a lot of things, but if I do not dream, you have touched Sicily with the magic pen of yours, and as I am still under the spell of* that Siren* land, I am going over today to the public library to find out just what you have written about it! I hope dear you are quite yourself again. How wicked that you should* be ill who never deserved even a finger ache! Sin must be healthful Sara, dear, for this hardy old sinner deserved to suffer far more than your dear saintship.

You will I am sure, with the lovely summer weather, cast off the last twinges and by [automn *so typed*] be well and at work again

Your devoted
[*signed by hand*]
Maud Howe Elliot.

Notes

Elliot: Maud Howe Elliot (1854-1948) was a daughter of Julia Ward Howe. In this letter, Elliot mentions other relatives, her sister Laura Richards, and, probably, Laura's daughters, Rosalind (1874-1964) and Laura Elizabeth Richards Wiggins (1886-1985). For Julia Ward Howe and Laura Richards, Key to Correspondents.

Julia Ward Howe's birthday was on 27 May.

1904: This date is arbitrarily chosen, as between 1903 and 1908. As Elliot refers to Jewett being ill in May but hoping perhaps to recover by autumn, she almost certainly refers to the effects the September 1902 carriage accident. This letter then almost certainly was composed during the final years when Jewett was able to send birthday gifts to Mrs. Howe.

Sara: Howe consistently spells Jewett's name so in this letter.

chudder shawl: Alternately spelled, "chuddar," this is a large shawl worn by Muslim or Hindu women that covers them from head to foot.

Fields: In "Mrs" the "r" and "s" are typed one over the other.

of: After this word, Howe starts a new indented line.

Siren: Elliot refers to the mythical singers who appear in Homer's *Odyssey*, where they attract sailors against their wills to shipwrecked on nearby rocks.

Jewett published about Sicily only in Chapter 7 of *The Story of the Normans* (1887), "The Normans in Italy." Fields, however, had recently toured in Sicily, during the first 3 months of 1904.

should: In this word, Howe has typed "l" and "d" one over the other.

The typescript of this letter is held by the Houghton Library of Harvard University: Sarah Orne Jewett Correspondence Series: I. Letters to Sarah Orne Jewett MS Am 1743, (58) Elliott, Maud (Howe) 1854- 1 letter; [n.d.]. This transcription is from a photocopy held by the Maine Women Writer's Collection, University of New England, Letters from Sarah Orne Jewett, 1875-1890, Box 4, Folder 159, Burton Trafton Jewett Research Collection.

Sarah Orne Jewett to Louisa Loring Dresel

Friday
[June *1904*]
[*Begin letterhead*]
South Berwick.
Maine.
[*End letterhead*]

Dear Loulie

I wonder if you cant use these tickets? the 'Pudding Play' is apt to be good fun. I expected to get back to town before this, but my sister is still ill from a long continuing rheumatic attack. I am getting

[*Page 2*]

on pretty well, but between a desire to do all that one can in a busy season outdoors and in, and knowing that if a person moves round too much it makes trouble, life isn't so very easy. I hope you are getting on well — it isn't until late next month that you sail, is it dear? but I know what a busy Loulie you are. Dont

[*Page 3*]

stop to write about the tickets at any rate, and find the love I sent you by this small letter{.}

Yours very affectionately

S. O. J.

Notes

June 1904: Though it is possible this letter was composed in 1903 or, perhaps even in 1905, it seems more likely to come from 1904. Jewett's report of her health problems would seem to place it after her September 1902 carriage accident. Her speaking of Hasty Pudding tickets and dating the letter in June point toward 1904. Jewett was likely to have received such tickets from her nephew, Theodore Jewett Eastman, who was a Harvard medical student during those years.

'Pudding Play': Almost certainly, Jewett offers Dresel tickets to a theatrical put on by the Hasty Pudding Club of Harvard University. The club's theatricals typically are "burlesque cross-dressing musicals." The April 1903 show was *The Catnippers*. In June 1904, the club presented *Boodle and Co.* The May 1905 production was entitled *Machiavelli*.

The manuscript of this letter is held by the Columbia University (New York) Library in Special Collections, Jewett. Transcription from a microfilm copy.

Sarah Orne Jewett to Mark Antony DeWolfe Howe

Tuesday
[*June 1904*]
34 Beacon St.*

[*Blue inked letterhead of initials SOJ within a circle*]

I was so sorry not to have even a quarter of your kind visit that I think you must mercifully come very soon again, my dear friend! I can give you just what you wish and I am so glad to have the truth told about

[*Page 2*]

the Scarlet Letter ms — Mr Hawthorne is certainly very careless. This book is in much better temper than its predecessor where he gave digs that were out of some fit of jealous ill temper of his own and not deserved to many persons. Mr. Fields* was as kind and generous as his own father could have been — so was Mr. Bennoch* about whom he speaks most kindly here

[*Page 3*]

— "one of his foolish statements where he says that my husband burnt up ^(or allowed it to be destroyed)^ the mss of the Scarlet letter because" (or as if) "he did not appreciate the story — The truth is, Hawthorne gave me the ms. of "The House of the Seven Gables" and when I was talking with him one day, I said, 'I could wish it were The Scarlet Letter, and what had he done with that? "Oh I put that up the chimney"*

[*Page 4*]

he said "and now I wish I hadn't!" -------

Mrs. Fields said in her letter that she was "not sure she should restrain herself from writing to Julian Hawthorne — I have often heard her tell the story of the Scarlet Letter ms — and so have other people but I think it would be very good to have it put into print [*blurred mark*]

[*Up the left margin of page 1*]

except that one doesn't like his saying "served Hawthorne's children"

[*Up the left margin of page 2*]

They ought [to *?*] serve him on their ~~hands and~~ knees! Yours ever

S. O. J.

Notes

June 1904 ... 34 Beacon St.: As indicated in the notes below, Jewett refers to a conflict between Julian Hawthorne and Annie Adams Fields that took place in June of 1904. 34 Beacon St. was the Boston address of Susan Burley Cabot. Key to Correspondents.

Mr. Bennoch: The English silk merchant, Francis Bennoch (1812-1890), befriended the Hawthorne family when Nathaniel Hawthorne served as American consul in Liverpool, England (1853-1857). See Ernest Earnest, *Expatriates and Patriots*, p. 168, and J. Hawthorne, *Hawthorne and his Circle*, pp. 92-5.

Jewett refers to a controversy between Annie Adams Fields (Key to Correspondents) and Julian Hawthorne (1846-1934), son of the American author of *The Scarlet Letter* (1850) and *The House of the Seven Gables* (1851), Nathaniel Hawthorne (1804-1864).

Judith Roman recounts the conflict in *Annie Adams Fields: the Spirit of Charles Street*, pp. 151-2. Julian Hawthorne in *Hawthorne and his Circle* (1903) implied that Annie Fields's husband and his father's publisher, James T. Fields, had failed to appreciate the importance of *The Scarlet Letter* and had allowed the manuscript to be destroyed. Jewett gives a summary of Annie Fields's position in this letter. Roman provides the June 1904 exchange of letters between Annie Fields and Julian Hawthorne.

The reference to serving "Hawthorne's children" remains mysterious.

chimney: Jewett's placement of quotation marks in this passage is puzzling; it is not clear exactly where she meant to place them.

The manuscript of this letter is held by the Houghton Library of Harvard University in Mark Antony De Wolfe Howe additional papers, 1880-1959. MS Am 1524 (774). Jewett, Sarah Orne, 1849-1909. 16 letters from; 1891-1903.

Sarah Orne Jewett to Frances Rollins Morse

148 Charles Street
Saturday
[*June 1904*]*

Dearest Fanny your note followed me here — I was hoping to see you and your mother — Tell dear Mrs. Morse* that I shall be coming to Manchester before long and run — (RUN !) to see her there.

— I am beginning to feel more like myself — not really strong yet but keeping hold of [thing's *so spelled*]

[*Page 2*]

much better — quite three quarters myself now, and with the other quarter I shall be all put together again — perhaps a size smaller and showing some cracks & nicks but never mind! I was going to telephone you but your note came first. You dont know what a comfort your letters have been. I am [saving *?*] Mrs. Morse such a delightful note and meant to say so quite honestly when I saw her.

With love to you both, and please

[*Page 3*]

give Mrs. Elliot* a message from me — I wish that I could see her this summer. I begin to feel that one loses enormously in being such a Rip van Winkle* person, but it is such a pleasure when one gets back!

Yours most affectionately
Sarah

I have seen Mr Henry James* (of Lamb House Rye!) at last, and hope to see him once more before he goes back.

[*Page 4*]

Mrs. Fields sends her love — She means to go down to Manchester in about a week —

Notes

1904: This guess rests upon Jewett mentioning that she has seen expatriate author and Jewett correspondent Henry James, who visited the U.S. in 1904. In June, Annie Fields typically moved to her summer home in Manchester by the Sea.

Morse: Harriet Morse, Fanny Morse's mother.

Mrs. Elliot: This may be Maud Howe Elliot, daughter of Laura Richards. See Richards in Key to Correspondents.

Rip van Winkle: American author, Washington Irving (1783-1859) wrote "Rip Van Winkle" (1819), the story of a man who magically sleeps for 20 years, to awaken an old man in changed world.

The manuscript of this letter is held by the Houghton Library of Harvard University, Cambridge, MA. bMS Am 1743.1 Sarah Orne Jewett Additional Correspondence II. Letters from Sarah Orne Jewett, Box 4 (122).

Sarah Orne Jewett to Harriet Jackson Lee Morse*

South Berwick
Wednesday
[*June 1904*]*

Dearest Mrs. Morse

I am so sorry to hear that you have been ill, and so glad to be told at the same moment that you are getting better! This is just a word to carry my love and to say that I wish I could come and sit near by for half an hour, and even if we couldn't talk we could "think things to each other" — We can do this

[*Page 2*]

now, cant we dear? — I feel nearer than ever to you and dear Fanny.

I am going to call me Rip Van Winkle* the Second, it was high time I returned to my village!

With dear love always
S.O.J.

Notes

Morse: See Frances (Fanny) Rollins Morse in Key to Correspondents.

1904: See Jewett to Fanny Morse of June 1904, where she also compares herself to Washington Irving's "Rip Van Winkle." (1819).

The manuscript of this letter is held by the Houghton Library of Harvard University, Cambridge, MA. bMS Am 1743.1 (123) Box 4, II. Letters from Sarah Orne Jewett.

Death of Sarah Wyman Whitman
24 June 1904

Find a Grave gives her death date as 24 June. Her obituary in the *Boston Evening Transcript* (27 June 1904, p. 4) says her death was announced on 25 June. The Wikipedia article on Whitman (as of March 2026) is wrong about her final residence, but may be correct that she died at Massachusetts General Hospital in Boston. Helen Bigelow Merriman to Mary Rice Jewett of 3 July describes the funeral that probably took place on Monday 27 June at Trinity Church, Boston. In that letter was a clipping of a tribute sonnet that appeared in the *Transcript* on 29 June.

Sarah Wyman Whitman
Toll the bell gently, for a gentle soul
Has sped from earth to immortality --
From pain and moil to Love's felicity,
Crowned with the gleam of Virtue's aureole.
True Womanhood had fixed her life's high goal
On kindly deeds wrought well and tenderly,
Working for all, unasked, unceasingly,
Nor seeking to withhold Love's hallowed dole.
Art's fair high-priestess, here she ever wrought
To lead her votaries to lofty themes --
To see the truth where Nature's visage gleams,
And to make Art the work of noblest thought.
To love the beautiful, the true, the good,
Allured and sanctified her womanhood.
Robert Alexander Douglas-Lithgow (1846-1917)

Annie Adams Fields and Sarah Orne Jewett to Sylvia Hathaway Watson Emerson

[*June 1904*]*

Dear Sylvia: I seize the paper nearest at hand to thank you for your dear letter. I was saying to Sarah only last eveg "we have neither of us been able to write to Sylvia and thank her for her dear letters and flowers and all kindnesses", and here you are writing us again and telling us what we wish to hear. We are getting on, yet rather slowly and letters are more than we are able to — I rejoice to hear particulars of the young engagements, for although we have heard some of the bare facts it is good to have them allied to real persons and made as the phrase is, into human documents —.

How interesting that Richmond

[*Page 2*]

business* has been, doing a world of good I am sure to both North & South — Mrs Booker T. Washington* has been here, a delightful creature, singularly like her husband, both in appearance and interests.

Sarah sends you ^both^ her love and thanks with mine.

Goodbye dear Sylvia and Ralph* from your affectionate

Annie Fields

Dear Sylvia

I found this note going on and said that I must add a word to it. As I get better I find it harder to write for some inscrutable reason and I can hardly write at all if I set at a desk, [as *? corrected?*] I have had a slight habit of doing these many years!

I know you will be eager to hear about dear Mrs. Fields and I hasten to

[*Page 3*]

say that I have found her even better than I had expected, looking almost entirely well often and often, but much effort makes her look pale and weak. I think the conditions of an illness, the shutting up and losing ones work which is the backbone of life, are often as bad as the illness itself. And you know how she has depended upon her walks? — I am slowly getting over the effects of my accident,* but "I aint what I was" as our country friends would say — I still have much pain and dizziness, and I cant walk very well, but before I came away the weather had been so bad that I could only get out a very little, and I need practice!! All my excellent doctors have said 'no writing, no effort for a long time yet.' You will know how I keep thinking that it would be nice if I were well and could do things to help our dear A.F. but we must be patient. Mary is coming

[*Page* 4]

for me next week. How I wish that I could get to see you and dear Mr. Emerson{.}* I hoped to see you both, and that we should be playing together a great deal this last winter — but now let's just look forward to next winter instead and no matter how many pencils there are, I'll come and sharpen them!

I don't think much of this block of paper. I'd like you to believe that these finger marks aren't appertaining to either A. F. or me. I just tore the page off, but they look like gardening persons fingers, and I wish mine had been grubbing.

Yours with unforgetting love
S. O. J.

[*On the reverse side of page 1 are these notes, which may not be in Jewett's hand*.]

Dr. Seiss. 17th St. E.
Please call. Write to [Sir *or* Dr. Thorst *?*] Prof Zeiss?*

Notes

1904: This date seems likely. Other letters indicate that Jewett was able to travel to Boston during June of 1904. When Fields comments on the "Richmond business" she apparently refers to the 1904 Richmond Streetcar Boycott, which began in April of 1904 and lasted until early fall. Blacks in Richmond, VA, boycotted the trolley system in response to the city segregating the cars. Rather than integrate, the system declared bankruptcy.

Mrs. Booker T. Washington: Wikipedia says: "Booker Taliaferro Washington (1856-1915) was an American educator, author, orator, and advisor to presidents of the United States. Between 1890 and 1915, Washington was the dominant leader in the African-American community." He married his third wife, Margaret James Murray, in 1893, after losing his first two wives.

Whether there is a link in Fields's mind between the Richmond Streetcar Boycott and Booker T. Washington is not clear. It is generally assumed that Washington opposed such boycotts, preferring a more accommodationist approach to opposing "Jim Crow" racial segregation laws.

Ralph: This is likely Mrs. Emerson's son, Ralph Lincoln Emerson (1868-1899), though it may be her husband, William Ralph Emerson.

my accident: A carriage accident on 3 September 1902 incapacitated Jewett for professional writing; thereafter, she no longer wrote for publication.

Mr. Emerson: William Ralph Emerson. See Sylvia H. W. Emerson in Key to Correspondents.

Prof Zeiss: The meaning of these notes is not yet known, nor have any of the names been identified.

The manuscript of this letter is held by the Library of Congress in the Owen Wister Papers, 1829-1966, MSS46177, Box 19.

Margaret Deland to Sarah Orne Jewett

[*Before 29 June 1904*]*

Dear Miss Jewett —

Please dont forget the Club and [me *?*] on Wednesday, the 29th, at 1 [oclock *so written*] -----

Cordially
Margaret Deland.

Notes

1904: Associated with this letter is an envelope, addressed to Jewett in South Berwick. Houghton archivists have dated the envelope and this letter to 1904. In 1904, the 29th of June fell on Wednesday.

The manuscript of this letter is held by the Houghton Library of Harvard University: Sarah Orne Jewett Correspondence I, Letters to Sarah Orne Jewett. Deland, Margaret (Campbell) 1857-1944. 2 letters; 1904 & [n.d.], bMS Am 1743 (44). This transcription is from a photocopy held by the

Maine Women Writer's Collection, University of New England, Letters from Sarah Orne Jewett, 1875-1890, Box 2, Folder 99, Burton Trafton Jewett Research Collection.

Annie Adams Fields to Sarah Orne Jewett

[*Summer 1904*]*

Dearest: It has been a true happiness to me to hear of your visits and the sense of returning life — Stevenson our [rare *?*] Stevenson* — prays you recall — "renew in us the sense of joy".

Does not Mary wish to be rid of a Pinny while two

[*Page 2*]

dressmakers are abiding — if so, you will find both Eva and Rose* with a glad welcome here — not to speak of your own A.F.

But your time is not long now

[*Page 3*]

before you intend coming away for Mrs Cabot.* Yesterday we had a great drive with Rose and I with Mr. Grew* over one of the exquisite new roads made by Mr. Sonier.* Today Rose goes to

[*Page 4*]

Mr Winthrop's* to luncheon and this afternoon I propose to take them both to Alice's.*

Good bye — there are no letters worth sending — your own Annie

Friday —

Notes

1904: If Mr. Winthrop, who died in 1905, is correctly identified below then almost certainly this letter is from 1904, the year Stevenson's book of prayers was published. Almost certainly, as well, this letter was written from Manchester, MA between May and October.

Stevenson: Scottish author, Robert Louis Stevenson (1850-1894). Fields quotes from *Prayers Written at Vailima* (1904).

Eva and Rose: Eva von Blomberg and Rose Lamb. Key to Correspondents.

*Mrs Cabo*t: Susan Burley Cabot. Key to Correspondents.

Mr. Grew: Probably this is Henry Sturgis Grew (1834-1910). A successful Boston businessman, Mr. Grew had homes in Boston, Hyde Park, and Manchester-by-the-Sea. The Manchester home was the Sumacs, on Masconomo St.

Mr. Sonier: Presumably Fields refers to macadam roadways, which began appearing in Massachusetts in 1894. The transcription of "Sonier" is uncertain, and this person has not yet been identified.

Winthrop's: This probably is Robert Charles Winthrop, Jr. (1834-1905), brother-in-law of Jewett correspondent Ellen Mason.

Alice: Probably Alice Greenwood Howe. Key to Correspondents.

The manuscript of this letter is held by the Houghton Library of Harvard University, Cambridge, MA. Sarah Orne Jewett Additional Correspondence, 100 letters from Annie Adams Fields, bMS Am 1743.1 Box 1, Item 33.